Volume 189

JUNE 29, 1968

No. 4611

Medicine Sales by Grocers

TRADE SEEKS CONSUMERS' SUPPORT

IN its fight to ensure that sales of proprietary medicines can still be made by the grocery trade when the Medicines Bill becomes law, the Grocers' Federation is seeking the support of the Consumer Council, the National Council of Housewives' Institutes and the Housewives Trust.

According to *The Grocer* (June 22), the Wholesale Grocers' Federation has been assured by the Ministry of Health that it will be consulted on the products to be included in the general sale list of medicines. The Multiple Grocers' Association is said not to be pursuing interest among members." A motion deprecating the proposals to restrict sales of "patent" medicines to chemists, was passed at the recent annual delegates conference of the National Union of Small Shopkeepers. The resolution has been passed to the Minister of Health and Board of Trade for comment. It states that Parliamentary approval of the Bill would result in a monopoly being created and would deprive the public of a service "prowided most satisfactorily for very many years by the small shopkeeper." It is asserted that "it is a well-known fact that many types of small shops open much later than chemists and in a number of instances provide a seven-day-per-week service." A letter signed by the Union's general secretary (Mr. W. D. Booth) states that "a certain manufacturing pharmaceutical wholesaler" has already taken steps to in-form clients within the Association that items such as "T.C.P., sanitary towels, corn plasters, Radox salts, Liqufruta, bandages, etc.," will no longer be supplied. The secretary of Leicester Grocers' Association has asked how a chemist's assistant, just left school, can be considered "qualified."

Decimalisation

COMPENSATION CLAIMS REFUSED

REPRESENTATIONS by sixty-seven organisations, companies and individuals about compensation for costs which could arise from decimalisation, have been turned down by the Decimal Currency Board. The Board says it has received no cases justifying a recommendation to the Government that payment of compensation should be made because of "special circumstances." Any other representations will be examined but they must be in respect of costs and meet all the following

requirements:— Bc necessarily and directly incurred as a result of decimalisation and would not otherwise have been incurred; be clearly identifiable and measurable; be manifestly disproportionate, after taking into account all tax allowances, both to the costs incurred generally by organisations and to the benefits deriving from the change-over; be for converting or replacing machines purchased before July 14, 1967 (the date on which the Decimal Currency Act received Royal Assent), They must also extend so far beyond the normal financial fluctuations and hazards of business that they cannot be readily absorbed in normal operating costs. Among interests for which representations have been made are "major sectors of the retail trade."

Prescribing Costs

EXAMINATION ON THE WRONG BASIS?

ILLOGICALITIES in the examination of doctors' prescribing costs were re-ferred to by Mr. G. Teeling-Smith (director of the Office of Health Economics) in an address to the Canadian Medical Association in Saskatchewan on June 20. The Macgregor Committee, he said, classified medicines adversely as being relatively ineffective or as being inappropriate mixtures. Medicines so classified were not generally more expensive than other medicines which the Committee classified favourably, yet only when his prescribing had been too expensive was a doctor called upon to justify his having prescribed an adversely classified medicine. The claim was apt to be made, unjustifiably, that measures taken under the National Health Service to reduce prescribing costs were based on the principle that "good prescribing is economical prescribing." What was responsible for a doctor's high costs was not "bad" prescribing as defined by the Macgregor Committee, but the extensive use of questionably valuable medicines. No evidence, and no expert pronouncements, were forthcoming on

whether such extensive use was beneficial or not: by saving other health service costs it might, in fact, prove to be economical prescribing. Another illogicality was that the Dunlop Committee might approve the marketing of a new medicine and the Macgregor Committee then advise doctors not to prescribe it.

Town Planning TURNOVER AND FLOOR SPACE

TO assist in furnishing a more intelligent means of planning shopping areas relative to actual needs and to provide information to local chambers desiring to challenge the figures upon which some planning schemes are based, the National Chamber of Trade has instituted an inquiry in an attempt to correlate turnover and floor space. When the planning of town centres is under consideration there always arises the question as to the basis upon which the allocation of land for shops should be assessed. Doubts have been expressed concerning the use by planning authorities of a formula involving floor space requirements.



MUSEUM PIECE: Thought to be about seventy years old, the container illustrated was discovered in Canada by the daughter of the marketing manager of Beecham Research Laboratories. It measures approximately 10 in. high by 4 in. across. The container has been sent to the Parke Davis museum in Detroit, U.S.A.

Therapeutic Substances

THREE SETS OF REGULATIONS

MADE under Part 1 of the Therapeutic Substances Act, 1965, new Therapeutic Substances (Manufacture of Antibiotics) Amendment Regula-tions, 1968 (H.M. Stationery Office, price ninepence), add to schedule 1 to the Act the rifamycins and their derivatives when intended for parenteral injection. Rifamide is required to be issued in a solid form at a potency of less than 900 units per mgm. and tests are included for freedom from pyrogenic substances, abnormal toxicity and histamine-like substances. The Therapeutic Substances (Manufacture of Hormone Products) Amendment Regulations, 1968 (H.M. Stationery Office, price ninepence) add to schedule 2 to the Act follicle-stimulating hormone and preparations thereof and prescribe standards of purity and potency and labelling requirements for the added substances. Special provisions relate to follicle-stimulating hormone preparations intended for parenteral injection. General provisions relating to isotopelabelled human serum albumin and special provisions relating the iodinated (125I) human serum albumin and to iodinated (1311) human serum albumin are included in the Therapeutic Substances (Manufacture of Preparations of Human Blood) Amendment Regulations, 1968 (H.M. Stationery Office, price one shilling). The Regulations also amend previous legislation by introducing the requirement that establishments in which preparations of human blood are prepared shall be under "the complete direction and control of an expert approved by the licensing authority." The name human normal immunoglobulin is substituted for that of human gamma G-immunoglobulin and a test for freedom from globulin and a test for freedom from pyrogenic substances for human serum albumin is included in addition to changes in the provisions relating to labelling of containers of less than 2.5 mils. All the Regulations become effective on July 1.

Progress in Technology FIRST "NEW SCIENTIST" AWARDS

FIRST awards have been made of New Scientist prizes announced at the British Association meeting at Leeds in 1967; First prize (£1,000) went to Dr. James K. Hambling (manager of the British Petroleum chemicals division) for his development of a process by which 4-methylpentene-1, a new raw material for the manufacture of plastics and solvents, is being produced on a commercial scale. A special award of £250 was made to Mr. Ian Witney and his experimental assistants Messrs. M. R. Rowland and S. G. Jones for their Hyfil, a composite material used in turbo-engine blades. Mr. A. Stewart (technical director, Cambridge Scientific Instrument Co., Ltd.) was highly commended for developing to the production stead the world? duction stage the world's first commercial scanning microscope. The award committee, under the chairmanship of Sir Lawrence Bragg, F.R.S., decided that the prize should be offered for

achievements within alternate broad fields of endeavour. The field chosen for 1968 was "technology." Next years' prize will be for an outstanding contribution to basic knowledge in the physical and biological sciences.

Scientists from Abroad

VACANCY NOTIFICATION SERVICE

A "SCIENTISTS' appointments service" for scientists overseas who wish to find employment in the United Kingdom has been set up jointly by the Royal Institute of Chemistry, the Institute of Physics and the Physical Society, the Institute of Biology, the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, and the Institution of Metallurgists. The scheme, which is being run in co-operation with the Ministry of Technology, is not restricted to British scientists or to members of the five participating bodies. British scientists leaving Britain, and those already abroad, may, if they wish, register with the scheme details of their qualifications, work, and expected return date. Participating employers would then provide the scientists with information on suitable vacancies. Inquiries should be addressed to the Scientists' Appointments Service at the Royal Institute of Chemistry, 30 Russell Square, London, W.C.1.

Heterocyclic Compounds

SYMPOSIUM ON THEIR CHEMISTRY

PROBLEMS connected with the chemical structure, synthesis and action of a number of heterocyclic compounds used in medicine were discussed at a symposium held recently at Leicester Regional College of Technology. Pro-fessor W. B. Whalley (University of London) discussed the non-alkaloidal constituents of ergot, with particular reference to the pigment ergoflavin. Now known to have a molecular formula of C₃₀H₂₆O₁₄, the compound contained, he said, two C-methyl and six hydroxyl groups and two lactone rings, and was symmetrical. The presence of the strained lactone rings had been established from chemical and spectroscopic evidence and the position of the two methyl groups was found by comparison of the infra-red and other data. In the course of that work it had become apparent that the accepted configurations for some common chemical compounds were open to doubt, Dr. J. M. Z. Gladych (Allen & Hanburys, Ltd.) discussed the chemistry of isatin, starting material for the Pfitzinger reaction, in which substituted cinchoninic acids were made by a ring expansion from five to six atoms. That reaction had recently been used to 2-methyl-4-quinoline-carboxamide which, converted into 2-methyl-4aminoquinoline and reacted with 1, 10-de-iodi-decane gave a quaternary salt that was the precursor of the anti-septic Dequadin. Mr. N. J. van Abbe (Beecham Products (U.K.)) said that, in the modern treatment of dandruff, certain compounds now available for inclusion in shampoos, such as zinc bis(pyridine-2-thiol 1-oxide), were capable of giving substantial clinical bene*IRISH NEWS* THE REPUBLIC

Illicit Heroin QUESTIONS IN THE DAIL

A CERTAIN amount of heroin was entering Eire illegally, Mr. S. Flanagan (Minister for Health), told Mr. Gerard L'Estrange (Fine Gael) in the Dail on June 20. Mr. Frank Carter asked the Minister to bring the sale of Methedrine under control and to curb the right of private doctors to prescribe it. He also called for the setting up of a committee to investigate sales of amphetamines. Mr. Flanagan replied that the retail sale of amphetamines, including Methodrine, was already controlled. He proposed to strengthen the existing powers of control by making the unauthorised possession of such substance a punishable offence. It would be a serious step to interfere with the right of a doctor to prescribe the drug of his choice for a patient. The total amount of heroin imported into the Republic in 1967 was 174 gms. Asking if the Minister did not think there should be stricter control of heroin, Mr. Carter said there were widespread reports in England that it was being illegally exported from there. Some might find its way into the Republic through unauthorised channels. Mr. Flanagan replied that it was the duty of everybody concerned with the public welfare to give any information however tenuous to the Gardai, the Minister for Justice or himself. Mr. L'Estrange, who had asked if there was any truth in a report that Ireland might be used as a base for distributing heroin, said he had already given information to the Commissioner of the Garda. The Minister told Mr. Carter that he did not consider he would be warranted in having a register of drug addicts prepared and identity cards issued to addicts. The number of addicts in the Republic was small. Dr. John O'Connell asked if the Minister was aware that there was a considerable number of addicts in the country not known to the Department because no register was kept. Those people were in need of help and if their names were on a register it would ensure that they would get drugs by normal means and not by subterfuge. Mr. Flanagan told Sir Anthony Esmonde that he hoped to introduce in the autumn legislation to deal with the unauthorised possession of "soft drugs."

THE NORTH

Prescription Charges OPERATIVE FROM JULY 1

PRESCRIPTION charges are being in-

troduced in Northern Ireland on July 1. Charges and an interim exemption Charges and an interim exemption scheme are similar to those introduced on June 10 in England and Wales (see C. & D., May 4, p. 390, May 11, p. 413, May 18, p. 432 and May 25, p. 477). New style prescription forms ES 21 — doctors and BS 47—dentists have been issued. Old style forms are not valid after July 31. No agreement on remuneration for operaagreement on remuneration for operating the scheme has yet been reached.

NEWS IN BRIEF

THE index of retail prices in May was 124.9 (January 1962 = 100), compared with 124.8 in April.

DETAILS of revised parcel post charges effective from July 1 are given in booklet PL 276, obtainable from post offices.

THE June addition to Proplist has been published by the Standing Joint Committee on the Classification of Proprietary Preparations.

An interim salary increase of 7 per cent. for medical laboratory technicians, operative from April 1, was agreed recently by the Professional and Technical "B" Whitley Council.

OVER 107,000 pills, tablets and capsules were handed in to Bristol police during their March drugs amnesty, according to the chief constable (Mr. G. Twist).

With the removal of the Infected Area restrictions around Llansilin, Denbighshire at midnight on June 25, the whole of England and Wales became free from foot-and-mouth disease Infected Area restrictions for the first time since October 25, 1967.

REPRESENTATIVES of the Pharmaceutical General Council (Scotland) and the Scottish Home and Health Department met on June 24 to put their cases in the dispute on remuneration (C. & D., June 8, p. 507) to the arbiter (Mr. J. P. Mackay, Q.C.). The arbiter's decision is not expected to be published by arbiter for at least two weeks.

Selected officers of the identification branch of Edinburgh City Police have been attending a unique three-day pilot course designed to provide practical training in techniques applicable to the detection and identification of drugs and other materials. The course, on the applications of thin layer chromatography to forensic science, is being run by the department of pharmacy, Heriot-Watt University.

APPLICATIONS for the 1969 Schoeller-Junkmann prize (value DM 15,000) are invited by the sponsors. Schering AG. Applicants under 40 years of age, who are permanently resident in Europe, should submit original manuscripts of unpublished studies in the field of endocrinology (excluding diabetes mellitus) to the president of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Endokrinologie, Professor Dr. J. Zander, Direktor der Universitäts-Frauenklinik, 69 Heidelberg, Voss-Strasse 9, Germany.

SPORT

BOWLS

ULSTER CHEMISTS' BOWLING ASSOCIATION and SCOTTISH CHEMISTS' BOWLS ASSOCIATION. The annual match between the two Associations for the Rexall Cup was played on June 19, on the green of the Burnhead bowling club, Larbert, Stirlingshire. The match resulted in a victory for the Scottish chemists by a margin of 22 shots. Scores. — Scottish Chemists, A. Condie, 19; W. Dickson, 15; D. Bernard, 26; A. MacKinlay, 21; total 81. Ulster Chemists, A. Steen, 18; W. McNally, 16; S. McIlroy, 10; C. Boyd, 15; total, 59. Mr. Norman Robinson (Rexall Drug Co.), presented the cup to the captain of the Scottish team (Mr. A. Condie).

TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

By Xrayser

Liberty

Professor David L. Cowen's lecture to the British Society for the History of Pharmacy traced the development of organised pharmacy and its place in the country's legislation (p. 569). Cullen's contention in 1796 (quoted by the lecturer) to the effect that the legislature should take special care that the necessary art of medicine should, so far as possible, be rendered both safe and useful to society is one that applies equally to pharmacy. It may, perhaps, be doubted whether the restriction of the sale of poisons in the 1868 Act was a recognition of the pharmacist's knowledge and qualification so much as a simple legislative means of limiting the points of distribution - a means which has been resorted to on innumerable occasions over the past century, using the same machinery. It has to be remarked that the pharmacist's specialised knowledge, training and qualification have not yet been fully recognised. If it were so, we should not see the uncontrolled sale of medicinal substances other than poisons over the counter (or lifted from it) in every conceivable variety of retail establishment. And vested interests are taking every possible step to see that there should be as little interference as possible with the liberty of the subject to purchase medicines from the widest possible number of distribution points. How far is liberty encroached upon by ensuring that expert advice is available at the point of sale? Can it be seriously argued that legislation prohibiting all advertising of medicines would infringe freedom? Or is it interference with the liberty of the subject to induce him, by means of advertising, to purchase medicines which may, at a critical time, delay his seeking proper medical advice? Cullen's dictum of 1796 was right, and the legislature, either in the name of freedom or under pressures insufficiently recognised, is still lagging behind. The new Medicines Bill touches the fringe. It has not grappled with the fundamentals, and does not look like doing so. We all know the tragedy of thalidomide. We know of the steps taken in something akin to panic to withdraw the drug from the various distribution outlets.

Restriction

Thalidomide is only one substance, and its effects were unsuspected for part of its comparatively short life. What of other substances which, after long use and apparent innocence, have become suspect? Simple everyday substances of yesteryear — mercury, phenacetin, borax — have, in the light of modern knowledge and observation, been found to be of doubtful safety. But the present system of "freedom" has meant that preparations containing those substances are scattered throughout the length and breadth of the land, in the hands of retailers who do not read medical reports and would not know what it was all about if they did. Is that what freedom means? It does not seem to me to be sufficient for the manufacturer simply to delete or substitute the offending ingredient and state "new formula." Restriction of medicines to those qualified to understand them and in a position to take quick and positive action to ensure the necessary warning or to facilitate early withdrawal seems to me to be both safe and useful. It would put all medicines into the same class as poisons, and many of them may be just that. One does not give a child an open razor to play with. One is at liberty to do so — but one doesn't. It is just as simple as that.

Disruption

The passing of the second week of prescription charges has not lessened the work or the complications. The question is not so much one of seeking monetary compensation for the time consumed in helping the untutored to understand the involved nature of the demands. It is that there is complete disruption of the routine of the dispensing department. Delays and interruptions are unavoidable and concentration on the work in hand is rendered impossible. I find it difficult to understand why a simpler method could not have been devised. I find it even more difficult to understand why the present one was accepted and a number of my colleagues are similarly puzzled.

GOVERNMENT VIEWS ON "SAINSBURY"

No ban on brand names but restraint in promotion sought

CHANGES in the voluntary price regulation scheme for drugs but the retention of brand names and greater restraint in sales promotion, were announced as Government policy by the Minister of Health (Mr. Kenneth Robinson) in the House of Commons on June 24. Mr. Robinson was making a statement on the recommendations of the Sainsbury Committee, which had been set up to inquire into the relationship of the pharmaceutical industry with the National Health Service (see C. & D., October 7, 1967, p. 333). The Government, he said, doubted the need for a separate Economic Development Committee, but proposed to invite the Chemicals Economic Development Committee, on which the pharmaceutical industry was already represented, to establish a separate working party for the industry.

"Weaknesses" in Pricing Scheme

As the Committee had suggested, certain patents questions had been drawn to the attention of the Committee on the British Patent System and Patent Law. Extension of "Crown use" to the general medical and pharma-ceutical services would be discussed during passage of the Health Services and Public Health Bill. The Government accept the committee's view that there are weaknesses in the present voluntary scheme for regulating prices of "ethical" proprietary medicines, and that the conditions under which those medicines were supplied to the National Health Service do not always ensure that prices and profits are reasonable. However, there were practical obstacles to the Committee's suggestion that prices should be negotiated on the basis of standard cost returns. Current shortage of manpower would be a major obstacle. The industry was willing to co-operate in alternative arrangements based on an annual financial return recommended by the Sainsbury Committee (which would give greater detail about overall costs and profitability of business with the National Health Service). "Subject to agree-ment on detail, we would accept a revised voluntary price regulation scheme on these lines, running perhaps for a minimum of three years." The industry would have a chance to demonstrate that the new regulations could safeguard the public interest.

The Government shared the view that there were disadvantages in the use of brand names in association with heavy sales promotion expenditure. "But we believe the abolition of brand names by Britain in isolation could well have more serious economic consequences than the Committee envisaged, and would in particular be likely to put British-based firms at a disadvantage in export markets." Any amendment of the trade-mark law needed to take account of international obligations. It was proposed to explore other ways of achieving the objectives, in particular through greater restraint in sales promotion. Present sales promotion involved a good deal of waste, and total

expenditure was higher than was necessary for keeping doctors informed about available medicines. "We accept that the industry should have a reasonable degree of freedom in promoting its products to doctors, but we shall expect a substantial reduction in the amount of promotion expenditure. particularly that which is taken into account in assessing a firm's costs and profits under the revised price regulation scheme."

In a reply to Dr. Shirley Summer-Skill, the Minister said that, since the Sainsbury Committee's main argument was that brand names tended to extend the monopoly position beyond the period of the patent, and since the proposal for abolition was made only in relation to new drugs, it should be made clear that advantages to the Health Service would only have begun to accrue after sixteen years.

MR. D. L. CROUCH asked whether the Minister did not consider that application of Section 46 of the Patents Act was "rather a blunt instrument." Would not a system of arbitration be a better solution? MR ROBINSON replied that the method was "an instrument of last resort."

No Direct Interference

MR. L. PAVITT suggested that, by his rejection of standard cost returns, the Minister had been more influenced by the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry than by Labour M.P.s. He asked for an early debate to consider a refusal to appoint a separate "little Neddy". THE MINISTER told MR. T. V. N. FORTESCUE that his

expectation of reductions in promotional expenditure would not mean direct interference in the marketing policies of pharmaceutical companies.

Industry's Comments

A statement issued by the Associa-tion of the British Pharmaceutical Industry after the Minister had spoken welcomed his decision not to proceed with the "standard cost return" pro-posal or the proposed abolition of brand names for new medicines. Substantial evidence had been submitted to the Ministry on those matters. Howthe Association shares the Ministry's view that some further modification of the voluntary price regula-tion scheme was desirable in the light of the Sainsbury Committee's report. There is complete agreement that the objective should be to demonstrate beyond question the reasonableness of all the prices charged for medicines to be used under the Health Service. At the same time, the economy of the country must be safeguarded against the damaging effects of any unduly rigid price control, as the Sainsbury report itself implied. Our record of innovation and exports is one which many other industries must envy." The Association noted the Minister's views on sales promotion, and was asking members to reconsider their individual levels of expenditure. "We do not accept as fair a general charge that promotional spending is excessive throughout the industry; account must be taken of the circumstances of individual companies, and of the importance of not impairing the speed with which doctors become aware of the existence of valuable new medicines and the rate at which they are adopted in practice.'

WALES GAINS A NEW INDUSTRY

£2-million plant produces non-woven fabrics

AT midday on June 12 the Secretary of State for Wales (Mr. George Thomas, M.P.) set the machinery in motion at a new £2 million works built at Pontllanfraith, Monmouthshire, for Johnson & Johnson (Gt. Britain), Ltd.

First new major plant to be completed in the area under the Government's regionalisation policy, the factory will eventually employ 2,500 people. For some time the company had been investigating alternative locations throughout Britain (throughout the world it already operates ninety-one factories) to provide additional manufacturing facilities. Choice of Pontllanfraith was influenced by the availability of land and people, distribution costs, export facilities, distance from the company's existing locations, and not least "the welcome and assistance given by everyone in Monmouth-shire." Products to be manufactured in the new factory include surgical dressings, baby and medical products, industrial tapes, textile and feminine hygiene products. A major proportion of the initial production will be non-woven fabrics (as distinct from papers, which include paper reinforced with textile fibres) for the home, hospital and industry. They are produced from



The Secretary of State for Wales (Mr. George Thomas) with the company's managing director (Mr. F. Angeli).

webs of textile fibres formed by carding or air-layering and are bonded with synthetic resins. End product of the process is a fabric with a wide variety of uses, both wet and dry. Already available on the market are nappy liners, surgical dressings and sanitary towels. Newest and most versatile product is J-cloth which, being soft, supple and virtually lint-free in its dry form, is washable and highly absorbent, giving it a host of domestic and commercial uses. Already on sale in Scotland and Northern England, J-cloths are being launched in London and the South in July.

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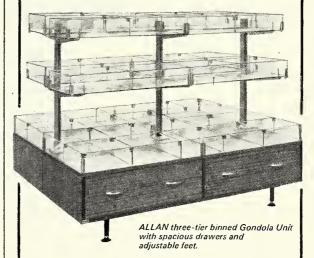
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GAS IN SHOPS

HIGH SPEED GAS



IN PARLIAMENT

THERE were 1,729 known narcotic addicts in 1967 and 1,608 addicts had so far been reported to the Central Authority under The Dangerous Drugs Act, 1967. That information was provided by MR. ELYSTAN MORGAN (Under Secretary of State) to MR. W. F. DEEDES in a written answer on June 20.

Prescription charges

MR. ROBINSON (Minister of Health) informed MR. WILLIAM PRICE in a written answer on June 24 that the Ministry of Health spent £62,240 in recent newspaper advertisements dealing with the prescription charge scheme. There was in addition the cost of explanatory leaflets and notices for which no separate figure was available.

Profits Survey

MR. A. KERSHAW asked the Secretary Employment and Productivity whether she was aware that the official survey of profits on proprietary medicines would involve chemists in extra work during the holiday period when staff were reduced and when the reimposition of prescription charges was giving them much administrative work; and if she would take steps to arrange for appointments to be made by letter instead of by telephone at a time to suit the convenience of the chemist concerned. Mr. Roy HATTERSLEY (Parliamentary Secretary) in a written answer on June 24 stated: I presume the question refers to a survey already undertaken by the National Board for Prices and Incomes. The Board determines its own procedures, subject to any general directions the Minister may give. I understand that the Board made every effort consistent with an early report to suit the convenience of those concerned. No further approaches to retail chemists are contemplated.

LEGAL REPORTS

Alleged Theft of Opium

A HOUSEWIFE and a married couple appeared at Thames Court, London, on June 17 on charges arising from the alleged theft of opium said to be worth about £15,000 on the black market. Mrs. Marion Ann Aldous, Bow, was charged with possessing a quantity of opium at her address on June 15. Marco Cavaciuti, London, N.4, was accused of stealing a quantity of opium belonging to his employers, Bush Boake Allen, Ltd., Wharf Road, Shoreditch, on June 12. His wife was charged with receiving a quantity of opium, knowing it had been stolen on or before June 14. A police officer who asked for a remand said there was no objection to bail for any of the defendants. All were remanded on bail to appear at Tower Bridge court on July 22 on bail total-ling £500. On June 22 three other employees of the company appeared at the court also accused of stealing opium. All were remanded on bail to appear at Tower Bridge court on July 22. Felix Gascoyne Mullinger (works manager), Beckenham, Kent, John McLeman Mitchell, F.P.S. (control chemist), 9 Wood Lane, London, N.5, appeared in the dock with departmental manager Alexander George Rae, Rainham, Essex. A police officer said that the case was directly concerned with one at the court on June 17. The three men were charged with stealing as servants approximately 4 lb. of opium worth £20, the property of their employers, Bush Boake Allen, Ltd., Wharf Road, London, N.1, on June 17.

COMPANY NEWS

Last year's figures in parentheses

CHAS. PFIZER & CO., INC.—The company is being given full control over the joint U.S.-Japanese firm Taico Pfizer Co. Thirty per cent. of equity holding held by Taico Co. is being transferred giving Pfizer Co. an 80 per cent. holding.

H. J. HEINZ CO., LTD.—The company has agreed to purchase a controlling interest in Moss, Waltham & Co., Ltd., Bristol House, London Moss Waltham, Ltd. have the following wholly owned subsidiaries: Leanstock, Ltd., Leanstock (Manchester), Ltd., Leanstock Exports, Ltd. and George Allen (Catering), Ltd.

AYRTON SAUNDERS & CO., LTD. — A "modest improvement" on the disappointing results of 1966-67 is reported by the chairman (Mr. D. R. Leith). Group net profit before tax for fifty-two weeks ended February 24 was £30,879 (against a loss of £5,743 in the previous fourteen months). Taxation accounts for £7,398 (£3,402), allowance having been made for loss brought forward from 1967. An ordinary dividend of 5 per cent. (nil) is recommended.

LAPORTE INDUSTRIES, LTD.—A final dividend of 9.93 per cent. is recommended, making a total of 12.93 per cent. (12½ per cent.), which represents a 3½ per cent. increase, the maximum consistent with Government policy. Group profit from manufacturing and trading for the fifty-two weeks ended March 31 was £7.678.865 (£6,780,096 for fifty-three weeks). Group profit before taxation was £4,853,568 (£4,317,253). Included are sales of technology amounting to £215,571 (£332,148).

STERLING - WINTHROP GROUP, LTD., Winthrop House, Surbiton-upon-Thames, Surrey, have created a new division to carry out research and development for all the operating companies. Named the Sterling-Winthrop Research and Development Division, its managing director is Dr. D. W. Wylie, the Group's chief medical and scientific director. The European research group under Dr. Wylie, though working independently, is in close communication with scientists and doctors at the Sterling-Winthrop Research Institute in the United States.

EUCRYL GROUP, LTD. — The Group has purchased J. E. Ellis, Ltd., for £157,500 in cash. The net tangible assets, exclusive of goodwill, as set out in the balance sheet dated April 30, were £59,797 and net profit, before tax, for the year was £40,506. The

profit was considered higher than would be expected in a normal year and it is estimated that the profit in an average year would be £30,000. The main product, Buttercup cough syrup, is sold mainly in the North of England and is complementary to the Eucryl product, Galloways cough syrup, which is sold mainly in the South of England.

ASPRO-NICHOLAS, LTD. — The chairman (Mr. M. A. Nicholas), in his report accompanying the accounts for year ended March 31, says that the year was one of accelerated growth for the overseas division. Progress was made in some European countries but "the outlets through which pharmaceutical products may be sold and the advertising visa requirements are all strictly controlled" making trading more difficult in others. To facilitate research and development it has been decided to erect new laboratories at Slough to consolidate research activities on one site. The directors' report shows that of total sales of £19.2 m. £12.3 m. was accounted for by overseas; exports from the U.K. amounted to £1.8 m. (For the accounts see C. & D., June 22, p. 557).

REXALL DRUG & CHEMICAL CO., Los Angeles, U.S.A. — Net sales in 1967, \$531.6 m. (\$488.4 m.); net earnings, \$31.05 m. (\$27.47 m.). Shareholders are told in the annual report that to increase productivity of its marketing staff in the company's "ethical" drug section (Riker), they have developed "extensive data on the medical profession in the U.S. Using this computerised data Riker is able to call on the medical profession with greater selectivity and impact yet with fewer detail men. This efficiency is being extended to other countries." About 12 per cent. of Riker's worldwide product sales goes on research. It is divided between the U.S., England and Australia and soon will be extended to a new centre in France. Early in the year Rexall agreed to a share merger with Beauty Counselors, Inc., Detroit, a direct selling cosmetics company. The addition, the report says, will enable Rexall's direct selling operations to gain entry into the cosmetic fields in important foreign markets such as England where Beauty Counselors, Inc. now operate subsidiaries.

STANLEY WESTON GROUP, LTD.—The proposed rights issue (see C. & D., June 15, p. 534), by Stanley Weston Group will be on the basis of one-for-two at 14s. per share to Ordinary and Deferred shareholders as forecast. Shareholders have been told that profits before tax for 1968 are expected to be around £240,000, against £181,686 in 1967. For the first five months sales are 16 per cent. better than the comparable 1967 period. On the basis of £240,000 profits, it is proposed to pay dividends totalling 21 per cent. (20.7 per cent.) on the increased capital. Net proceeds from the rights issue will be about £745,000 and will be used to repay the bank overdraft of about £650,000. The group's expansion programme is continuing and two new retail branches are to be opened in the next two months in the Birmingham area; negotiations are currently taking

place for the acquisition of other existing businesses. The credit trading business of Paradise House, Ltd., has been terminated. The subsidiary traded at a loss in 1967 and its book debts will be sold at around £50,000.

BUSINESS CHANGES

MR. G. TAIT, F.P.S., has closed his pharmacy at 3 Abbot Street, Craigie, Perth.

MR. W. K. LAURIE, M.P.S., has closed his pharmacy at 48 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh, 12.

GORDON DRAKE, LTD., have removed to 143 High Street, Strood, Kent (from 161 High Street).

GREYER, BRECHEISEN & CO., LTD., have moved to Finsbury Pavement House, 120 Moorgate, London, E.C.2.

R. WARD DAVID (CHEMISTS), LTD., have closed their branch at 90 Tylacelyn Road, Penygraig, Glamorgan.

MISS JEAN M. LIVINGSTONE, M.P.S., has acquired the business of Mr. A. Rees, M.P.S., 42 Bathhurst Walk, Iver, Bucks.

STOCKTON CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LTD., Wellington Street, Stockton-on-Tees, are taking over Stockton Co-operative Chemists, Ltd.

MR. J. LERMAN, M.P.S., has acquired the pharmacy at 215 Holloway Road, London, N.7 from Mr. J. R. Marples, M.P.S.

THE supplies department of the Canterbury Group Hospital Management Committee is now sited at Herne Hospital, Herne Common, near Herne Bay, Kent.

FOUR more pharmacies in Eire have closed down, namely those of Henry Bell Ltd., Waterford; Dr. Flynn, Parnell Street, Dublin; Mrs. Attracta Kelly, Harold's Cross Road, Dublin, and Mr. Eugene O'Sullivan, Dame Street, Dublin.

APPOINTMENTS Board

LAKE & CRUICKSHANK, LTD.— Mr. W. N. Walker has been appointed to the board and is now director of production.

H. J. HEINZ CO., LTD. — Mr. A. Forsyth (director of marketing and home sales) has been appointed executive vice-president of the H. J. Heinz Co. of Canada, Ltd., with effect from October 1.

LENTHERIC, LTD. — Mr. J. L. Gardner has been elected to the board and will be resigning his directorship of Yardley & Co., Ltd. He will be deputy to Mr. D. N. Davies (managing director) and will have responsibility for the United Kingdom market.

GLAXO GROUP, LTD. — Consequent upon recent appointments to its main board further changes are being made to the boards of the Group's subsidiary companies.—Allen & Hanburys, Ltd.: Mr. W. J. Hurran to retire; Mr. R. A. Langridge to be a director. Glaxo-Allenburys (Export), Ltd.: Mr. R. D. Smart to retire; Messrs, F. C. D. Back and B. E. Baker,

to be directors. Macfarlan Smith, Ltd.: Mr. W. J. Hurran to retire; Mr. F. C. D. Back to be chairman. Vestric, Ltd.: Mr. A. E Bide to retire; Mr. P. Girolami to be deputy chairman. Board appointments to the new companies formed out of The British Drug Houses, Ltd. are:- Mr. R. D. Smart has become chairman of B.D.H. Pharmaceuticals, Ltd. with Mr. I. B. Smith, managing director and Mr. D. G. Grover, deputy managing director. Mr. F. W. Griffin has been appointed chairman of B.D.H. Chemicals, Ltd. with Mr. H. G. Rolfe, managing director.

Executives

IZAL, LTD., have appointed Mr. R. Stuart Lee, B.Sc., a brand manager.

ALADDIN INDUSTRIES, LTD.. have appointed Mr. J. Ruff their Aladdin products promotions manager.

W. H. LEGAT, LTD. — Mr. R. F. Doran, M.P.S., B.A.(Econ), was appointed an executive director as from June 19.

PERSONALITIES

MR. D. SHEA (sales and marketing director, Clairol, Ltd.), has completed his two-year assignment in the United Kingdom and returns to the United States to take up an important position in July with Clairol, Inc. Mr. Shea invites the many friends he has made while in the U.K. to call on him in New York during any visit to that country.

DR. DAV1D W. WYL1E, who is taking over as managing director of



a new divi-sion of Stera ling - Winthrop Group, Ltd. (see p. 581), studied at Glasgow University, where he gained degrees in pharmacy and medicine and Ph.D. in pharmacology and bacteriology. In 1948, at British Phar-

maceutical Conference meeting in Brighton, he presented a paper, of which he was joint author with the late Professor Todd, on the sources and testing of pyrogen. For two years he held a resident studentship at Lennox Castle Mental Institute, working with emotionally disturbed and mentally retarded children. After a year's fellowship in pharmacology at King's College, London, and a year working with the Miinstry of Health, he joined the Sterling-Winthrop Research Institute in New York, U.S.A., to undertake research in neuro-pharmacology. In 1959 he became assistant director of new product development and in 1963 returned to the U.K. as director of research and development of the Winthrop and Bayer Products companies. In 1966 he was appointed to the board of Sterling-Winthrop group, Ltd.

DR. T. D. WHITTET (Chief Pharmacist. Ministry of Health) was one of the speakers at a recent conference

at the National Library of Medicine, U.S.A. He also visited the universities of Rutgers, New Brunswick, Cincinnati and Wisconsin. Dr. Whittet addressed students at Cincinnatti and Wisconsin on "Pharmacy in the British Health Service" and at Cincinnatti also on the "History of Pharmacy in England up to 1841."

DEATHS

BOWREY.—On June 16, Mr. Clarence Bowrey, M.P.S., 2 Ravenswood Road, Redland, Bristol, 6. Mr. Bowrey qualified in 1924.

BROOME.—On June 10, Mrs. Joan Doreen Broome, M.P.S., 46 Belmont Road, Portswood, Southampton, Hants. Mrs. Broome qualified in 1952.

DIXON.—On June 2, Mr. Eric Edwin Dixon, M.P.S., 11 Ilkeston Road, Bramcote, Notts. Mr. Dixon qualified in 1936.

DUFFIN. — On June 18, Dr. W. M. Duffin, F.R.I.C., D.I.C., A.R.C.S., Ph.D., head of the library and information services, Wellcome Research Laboratories, Beckenham, Kent, aged sixty-four.

DUFTON.—On June 4, Mr. Robert Bertram Dufton, M.P.S., 170 Heath Dufton, Bishop's Stortford, Herts. Mr. Dufton qualified in 1920.

FENTON.—On January 1, Mr. Francis David Scott Fenton, M.P.S., 807 Rapallo Beach Road, Sea Point, Cape Town, South Africa. Mr. Fenton qualified in 1930.

HILL.—Recently, Mr. Edward Hill, M.P.S., 62 Buttermarket Street, Warrington, Lancs, Mr. Hill qualified in 1912.

JORDAN.—Recently, Mrs. Ruth Jordan, M.P.S.I., Bridge Street, Boyle. Mrs. Jordan qualified in 1953 and shortly afterwards opened her own pharmacy which she continued to conduct until obliged through failing health to retire some months ago. She is survived by her husband and sevenyear-old son.

LAMEY.—At the North Devon Infirmary on June 18, Mr. Alfred Thomas Lamey, M.P.S., The Quay Pharmacy, Appledore, Devon. Mr. Lamey qualified in 1931.

LAWSON.—On June 6, Mr. Thomas Birkbeck Lawson, M.P.S.. 13 Dereham Close, Seaton Sluice, Northumberland, Mr. Lawson qualified in 1920.

LEWIS. — On June 2, Mr. William Herbert Lewis, M.P.S., The Pharmacy, Station Road, Cymmer. Port Talbot, Glam. Mr. Lewis qualified in 1937.

MORLEY.—On May 24, Mr. Robin Clifton Morley, M.P.S., 12 Park Lane, Woodstock, Oxford. Mr. Morley qualified in 1913.

PETCHEY.—On May 23, Mr. George Petchey, M.P.S., 21 Hasborough Road, Folkestone, Kent. Mr. Petchey qualified in 1921.

SIMMONS.—On June 7, Mr. Jacob (Jack) Simmons, M.P.S., 9 Victoria Mansions, Terminus Road, Eastbourne, Sussex. Mr. Simmons qualified in 1932.

WILSON. — On June 22, Mr. A. Wilson, 7 Ings Drive, Bradley, Keighley, Yorks. Mr. Wilson was a former representative of Cheseborough-Ponds, Ltd.

NEW PRODUCTS AND PACKS

PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALITIES

As a Syrup.—Geigy (U.K.), Ltd., pharmaceuticals division, Hurdsfield Industrial Estate, Macclesfield, Ches, have made available a Tofranil syrup for the treatment of enuretic children and depressed patients who experience difficulty in swallowing tablets or capsules. Tofranil syrup is issued in bottles of 120 mils. Each 5-mil. teaspoonful of the syrup contains imipramine, as a resin complex, equivalent to 25 mgm. of imipramine hydrochloride, B.P.

Sterile Disposable Eye Products.— Pharmax, Ltd., Thames Road, Crayford, Dartford, Kent, are launching on July 1 a range of single-dose sterile (gamma-irradiated) disposable units of

eye drops and ointments under the name Opulets. In recent years, they point out, numerous reports have been pub-lished of eye infecoriginating tions from contaminated and non - sterile preparations, but though the need for improved sterility in eye preparations has long been apparent, little

practical progress has been made towards that end. For absolute sterility drops or ointment must be presented in single-dose packs, with both container and contents pre-sterilised. The initial Opulets range comprises eye drops sulphacetamide (10 per cent.) or fluorescein (1 per cent.) and eye ointments containing sulphacetamide (6 per cent.) or atropine (0.5 per cent.). Droppers and ointment capsules are individually packed in film sachets and then sterilised. Dispensing packs (250 units) are also available.

Topical Crcam.—Dome Laboratories (division of Miles Laboratories, Ltd.) Stoke Court, Stoke Poges, Slough, Bucks., have made available Nystaform-HC cream containing 100,000 units per gm. of nystatin, 3 per cent. of iodochlorhydroxyquinoline, and 0.5 per cent. of hydrocortisone alcohol in a water-washable base. The cream is indicated in the topical treatment of subacute or chronic inflammatory dermatoses that are complicated or threatened by fungal and/or bacterial infections. The product is applied to the affected area two to three times daily. Pack is a 15-gm. tube.

Schistosomicide. — CIBA Laboratories, Ltd., Horsham, Sussex, have now made Ambilhar available in this country. Ambilhar, a nitrothiazole derivative, appears to be the most effective schistosomicidal drug available. It is understood to be effective against bilharziasis caused by Schistosoma haematobium, S. mansoni, and S. japonicum, and is also active in dracontiasis (guinea-worm infestation). At the dosage recommended, treatment is rarely necessary for more than seven days, and side effects are mostly minor in character and usually

reversible. The drug is presented as tablets each containing 500 mgm. of niridazole. It is given in two divided doses daily.

VETERINARY SPECIALITIES

"Economic" Coccidiostat. — Pharmaceutical Specialities (May & Baker), Ltd., Dagenham, Essex, have introduced new-formulation Saquadil, described as the economic coccidiostat for the effective treatment for all types of coccidiosis in all types of birds. The product is conveniently administered in the drinking water and is stated to be palatable and well tolerated. Packs are black plastic bottles of 8 and 30 fl. oz. and a black plastic J-type container of 1 gall.



OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICINALS

An "Own-brand" Speciality.—Arthur H. Cox & Co., Ltd., 93 Lewes Road, Brighton, Surrey, offer a speciality Entroquin as a new line for chemists' "own-brand" range. Entroquin is intended for prophylaxis against, and treatment of certain infections of the intestinal tract, combating stomach disorders such as are encountered frequently on holidays abroad. The product is available in the nine distinctive Cox designs. It is foil wrapped in 20's (five strips of four tablets each) and presented in counter display outer of 1 doz.

CONFECTIONERY

Sweet cum Breath-freshener. — Hall Brothers (Whitefield), Ltd., Whitefield, Manchester, are launching in the York-



shire and Southern television areas a product Certs which they describe as "a new concept in confectionery". Understood to have been highly successful in the United States and Canada (where sales grew sixfold in five years) Certs have now been launched as "both a delicious sweet and a breath freshener". They contain Retsyn, an ingredient that is understood to neutralise the bacteria that cause bad breath. There are two flavours: spearmint and peppermint.

COSMETICS AND TOILETRIES

Miniature Perfumes.—Coty (England), Ltd., distribution centre, Sandwich. Kent, have made available three of their perfumes in petit parfum miniatures. The three are l'Aimant (heart-shaped bottles in cherry-pink pack); Imprévu (arch-shaped bottle in blue and white box) and Masumi in miniature tear-drop bottle (goldenyellow presentation).

Moisturising Bath Oil.—J. L. Perl, Ltd., 29 Old Bond Street, London, W.1, are distributing in the United Kingdom a "super-moisturising" bath oil, Retain, made by Wassen-Europe, Ltd. The product, claimed to lengthen the life of



natural suntan, is a blend of solubilised oils that disperse in water and are attracted and absorbed into the skin whilst bathing or when washing. Pack is a seventeen-bath bottle.

Pearly Eye Shadow.—In their Outdoor Girl range distributed by Myram Picker, Ltd., Hook Rise, Surbiton, Surrey, is now a pearly liquid eye shadow "to make the big soft eyes for the summer". Shades are in two groups, pale pastels (lustre blue, lustre green, lustre lilac and lustre turquoise) and cool neutrals (lustre white and lustre brown).

New Cosmetic Colours.—Lentheric, Ltd., 17 Old Bond Street, London, W.l., have introduced three new colours (Tropic flower, coral and Spice Island swirls) in their Colourswirl lipstick series, two new shades (rose and amber coolie) in the Coolie series; pearl black, pearl green and pearl brown shades in eye-liners, Deep Water and Sea Haze pressed powder eye shadow, and four shades in face powders.

PRODUCTS FOR HAIR CARE

Wigs by Direct Mail. - A twentyfour-hour delivery service on machine made wigs and hair pieces is offered by Model Wigs, Ltd., 145A, Stamford Hill, London, N.16. A brochure is available on request.

Hair Brushes in Ivory White.— Mason Pearson Bros., 70 Piccadilly, London, W.1, have added ivory white to the colour range of their Mason Pearson ladies' and military hair brushes in medium and large sizes.

For Coloured Customers.—B. Fairall, 56 Hatfield Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, offer Reck-Junior continental hair-straightening combs, curlers and pomades as suitable merchandise for introducing to chemists' coloured customers.

Colour-restoring Duo. — Formula Sixteen hair-colour restorer ("not a surface dye or colour rinse") and Formula 16 shampoo in bottles are nationally advertised products about which L. E. Vincent & Partners, Ltd., 10 Haymarket, London, S.W.1., invite

Unperfumed Hair Spray.—Designed to appeal to women who want to avoid any clash with their favourite perfume, a new unperfumed hair spray by Cynamid of Great Britain, Ltd., Breck department, Bush House, Aldwych, London, W.l, is claimed to have "everything that's already made Miss Breck famous . . . except perfume.

"Perfect Answer" to Grey Hairs.— Lockyer's hair restorer, first marketed in 1875, is described as "still the perfect answer" to the problem of greying hair. It is claimed to bring back full colour, health and lustre to greying hair, restoring the natural colour pigment. Makers are Gambartra, Ltd., 100 Centurian Road Brighton, Sussex.

A Warmer Look. — Clairol, Ltd., 66 Baker Street, London, W.I, report the successful launch of two new shades in their Nice in Easy range. The new colours are 101 natural baby blonde (a warm honey blonde), and 117 natural medium warm brown, an especially important newcomer, as it is the first non-ash brown shade in the range. Nice 'n Easy has been on the British market for only just over two years, yet already it has established itself as a firm favourite with thousands of women. To promote the two new shades Clairol have prepared a special counter display unit, holding six packs and doubling as a colour chart of the shades.

Shampoo Lightener and Kit. — A new product in the L'Oreal range, a shampoo lightener "Softly Blond," has been introduced by Golden, Ltd., P.O. Box IBX, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. "Softly Blond," say the makers, lightens hair "just that shade or two some women gain naturally from the sun. It works in just five minutes." The product is also claimed the only one offering a kit that is complete in itself, right down to plastic gloves. "Softly Blond" is sold in a prepacked counter unit of 1 doz, and thereafter in stan-

dard packs of six. L'Oreal's Belle Color shampoo-in cream colourant comes in a new pack from July 1. In the pack are cream shampoo colourant, a plastic applicator filled with Exybel, a pair plastic gloves and an easy-to-follow instruction leaflet. An individual shade guide on the front shows the approximate results of that particular shade on blonde, light brown or dark brown hair. Also announced are four new shades (light ash blonde, natural ash, natural blonde and very light brown).

TRADE NOTES

Club for Beauty-counter Assistants. —The Elida Beauty Club, P.O. Box 1DY, 43 Portman Square, London, W.1., has been joined, say the sponsors, by thousands of beautycounter assistants. The club keeps its members up to date with hair trends and competitions and offers the chance of qualifying as an Elida consultant. Details may be obtained by writing to the company.

Distribution Changes

FROM July 1 all inquiries for Hyasorb should be directed to the new distributors, Oppenheimer Son & Co., Ltd., 43 Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

LANTIGEN (ENGLAND), LTD., a member of the Norcros group of companies, announce that, from July 1 Lantigen oral vaccines are being manufactured and distributed through Maws Pharmacy Supplies, Ltd. (another member of the group). The makers express appreciation for the close co-operation they have received from the distribu-tors for some years: Richards & Appleby, Ltd. The manufacturers, Lantigen (England), Ltd., also announce revised trade terms, giving a $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. margin, and a new retail price of 28s. 4d. for each product.

FROM July 1 the name of Duncan, Flockhart & Evans, Ltd., is being changed to B.D.H. Pharmaceuticals, The new company becomes responsible for marketing the products previously marketed by Messrs. Duncan Flockhart & Evans and for the pharmaceutical specialities previously marketed by The British Drug Houses, Ltd. Any outstanding orders for the products of AB Insulin, Ltd., held by Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., at the close of business on Inne 28 are being transferred to B.D.H. Pharmaceuticals, Ltd., Birkbeck Street, London, E.2 (telephone: 01-739 3451). The name of The British Drug Houses, Ltd. is also being changed to B.D.H. Chemicals, Ltd., on July 1. The new company will be responsible for all the chemical activities formerly conducted by the B.D.H. laboratory chemical division and will continue to trade from Poole.

Bonus Offers

J. L. PERL, LTD., 29 Old Bond Street. London, W.1. Retain bath oil. Twelve invoiced as ten (introductory bonus).

HALL BROS, (WHITEFIELD), LTD., Whitefield, Manchester. Certs sweet and breath freshener. Four boxes invoiced as three.

GOLDEN, LTD., Berkeley Square, London, W.1. Belle Color. Prepack of GOLDEN,



LONDON, ANGLIA AND THE SOUTH: Hexagonal packs of six and twelve J-cloths, now being launched into the London, Southern and Anglia (excluding Belmont transmitter) television areas. Makers are Johnson (Gt. Brifain), Ltd., Slough, Bucks.

twelve invoiced as nine (prepack contains two display units, each featuring six packs).

KELDON, LTD., Wadsworth Perivale, Middlesex, Optrex siliconeimpregnated lens cloth. Forty-eight invoiced as thirty-six. Till September 30.

GERHARDT-PENICK, LTD., Thornton Laboratories, Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey, Fresh'n Dainty deodorant tissues economy pack. Four packets invoiced as three. Till August 31.

BRITISH OXYGEN Co., LTD., Sparklets Products, Brentford, Middlesex: Sparklets syphons. Additional 2½ per cent. discount on direct orders for three to twenty-three; 5 per cent. on orders for twenty-four or more.

WILKINSON SWORD (ACTON), LTD., Sword House, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex. Sword pack (fifty "dispensers") at a saving of 11s.; Pillarpack (twenty-five "dispensers") at saving of 5s. 6d. through wholesalers.

PHILIPS ELECTRICAL, LTD., Century House, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.2 Philips electric blankets. Philishave-3 de Luxe shaver with order for twenty-four; Traveller shaver with order for twelve; nest of ten Philips Handipak interlocking storage units with order for six. Till September 30.

Trade Shows
LENTHÉRIC. LTD., 17 Old Bond Street,
London. W.I. Jersey, Grand hotel, July 1-5.
MORNY, LTD., 201 Regent Street, London. W.1. NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, Royal Turks

Head hotel, July 1-4.

J. GROSSMITH & SON, LTD., 41 Piccadilly, London, W.I. NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE,

Royal Turks Head hotel, July 1-5.

SHULTON (GREAT BRITAIN), LTD., 100
Brompton Road, London, S.W.3, NEWCASTLE
UPON TYNE, Royal Turks Head hotel, July 1-5.

"Senior," Not "Chief."-A vacancy at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary notified in the "Classified Advertisements" supplement last week was wrongly headed. The vacancy was in fact for a senior pharmacist on the staff of Mr. J. A. Myers, who is still very much the Chief Pharmacist at the Infirmary, and who mentioned that he has vacancies not only for a senior but for a deputy-chief, a basic-grade and a locum pharmacist.

OLDEST PHARMACY IN FRANCE Ten generations

By MAURICE MOYAL

in one family

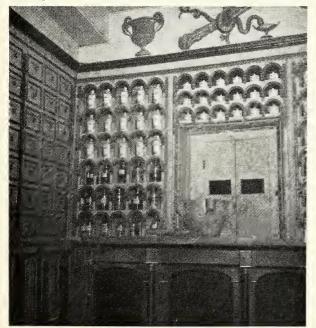
n offer the interior. The green heads of

N the way of historic sights, Avignon can offer the tourist both the Popes' castle, in which the heads of world Catholicism lived in the fourteenth century, and France's oldest pharmacy—Augier's—open for business today just as it was in 1618. Just imagine, when the first Puritan escapees from religious persecutions were landing in America, it was already a going concern!

Visitors come to the pharmacy from all over the world, for it has three unique distinctions. First, its present proprietor, Dr. Marcel Augier, is the tenth generation in direct line—surely a world record! Secondly, it is the oldest pharmacy in operation in France, and maybe one of the oldest in the world. Thirdly, and perhaps most outstanding of all, it shares with the cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, and the pleasure palaces of the Kings of France at Versailles and Fontainebleau, the distinction of being a Monument Historique.

That distinction, though a wonderful traffic-builder, has one drawback so far as Dr. Augier is concerned. He is looked upon not so much as the owner but as the curator and trustee for the whole French nation of this veritable treasure-trove of pharmaceutical paraphernalia. It would take a special Act of the National Assembly to empower him to alter anything in the internal layout of the pharmacy or dispose of the smallest ointment jar.

When Ange Augier "the First" built for himself a stone house in the Renaissance style in the shadow of the Popes' castle, and opened the apothecary shop on the ground floor, Louis XIII was on the throne of France. Augier, a devout Catholic and a sculptor of no mean talent, carved a single elephant tusk into an intricate statue of Christ on the Cross, and until recently that real masterpiece graced the house front between two mullioned windows on the upper floor. Because then it was deteriorating from more than three centuries' exposure to sun and rain, the statue was taken down and presented to the local Calvet museum. In Avignon the building itself is still known as the "Ivory Christ House."



Interior, with Pyrenean-marble topped counter dating back to Napoleon I and the only one of its kind still in use. Top right: Statue of Christ that formerly graced the house front.

In 1755, Ange "III," great-grandson of the founder, could not resist the urge to "do a bit of modernising," and changed the plain and somewhat severe

interior. The great-grandson's taste was somewhat more ornate than that of the founder, but still excellent, and in modernising he had the good sense to retain the artistic set of Moustiers porcelain short-necked bottles, phials and ointment jars that had been acquired by Ange "the First." The set, unique in the world for its completeness, has today a value of well over a quarter of a £ million.

Ange III's remodelling was so well done that little has been changed in the shop since that time. On two sides graceful giltedged drawers in rococo style (characterised by elaborate ornamentation imitating foliage rockwork, shellwork, scrolls, etc.)

bear in golden letters such standbys of old pharmacopoeias as dragon's blood, rhatany, colocynth, Corsican moss, sassafras, wormwood, hemlock and poppy.

In one corner stands a heavy cast-iron mortar, in which ingredients were pounded into powder by means of an iron pestle—pounded according to an intricate beating pattern that required long apprenticeship.

The shop still treasures a whole range of big-bellied pots and kettles for baking and boiling ingredients; spatulas of every form; knives for chopping medicinal roots; and even tiny planes, used to pare beneficial woods into minute chips.

At the rear is the prescription counter in the style of Napoleon I. It has folding shelves made of solid mahogany topped with marble. That king-size piece of furniture is so heavy that four men can barely move it an inch or two. It is also unique, being the only one of its kind in the world that is still in active service. Only two other similar counters are known to exist, and both are in musuems.

Above the prescription counter hangs a beautiful symbol of pharmacy, its serpent (of science) coiling around a club (of power) to drink from the cup (of truth). Beneath the shop sign and immediately behind the prescription counter are arched compartments containing the whole array of short-necked bottles, phials and jars that kindle flames of envy in the eyes of museum-keepers the world over. Those highly-prized collectors' items still proclaim in golden letters their old contents—home-brewed pomades, balms, pills, preserves, powdered stag's horn and such weird concoctions as scorpion oil and newborn-pup oil.

A Turtle Ranch

Until the beginning of the present century the pharmacy included a turtle ranch that was looked after over a period of seventy years by the same attendant. Turtle flesh was used for making a serum that was claimed effective in tuberculosis. In France in recent years the serum has been outlawed, though it is understood to be still prepared in Germany and Switzerland.

The early generations of Augiers knew nothing of vitamins. Yet they made conserves of rose hips that the beleagured French were glad to revert to when the 1939-45 war cut them off from suppliers of citrus fruits. Such heirlooms of the past it would be folly to discard as rubbish, maintains the present Dr. Augier, at least without first investigating them by the methods of modern science, which has found value in many empiric remedies. No doubt, however, though today the principal commodities of the pharmacy are such as are to be found in every Western pharmacy, the old empirics will continue to excite the interest of the tourists who visit the premises in such numbers.



SHOP TOPIC - 7

A Good Ticket Means A Good Deal

DISTINGUISHED from a price-tag on the one hand, and from a showcard on the other, a ticket on the items of merchandise displayed is worth the expenditure of a little thought by the chemist. Many manufacturers supply tickets freely, as they do other promotional material, but if the ticket does not show the price of the item, the prospective customer may just pass on, not even coming in to ask.

The answer may be always to add a ticket of one's own. On a manufacturer's ticket there may be no crisp or topical selling word or phrase. The proprietor's name may not appear and intending customers at the window are unlikely to step back to read the facia. From the kind of tickets referred to there will be little contribution to the "personality" of the shop. Indeed the displays could easily become so impersonal as to offer no more distinction than the window panel of a giant slot machine. Something is needed to remind anyone looking into one's window that it is the shop of a real person, Galen the Chemist, 5 High Street, Seamarsh.

If the tickets in the window are lifeless, how can they be made better? Supermarket trading is actively conditioning the housewife to expect vigorous selling methods in general and lively tickets in particular. The main chemist 'chains' recognise that and are following suit.

You probably will not wish to engage in "price-slashing," genuine or otherwise. The effective use of windows and the search for selling-points have been discussed in previous "Shop Topics." It was then suggested that window (and interior) displays should reflect current selling purpose and should include a central theme, regularly changed. It follows that a crisp selling word or phrase, taken from the selling points of an item, could often have a place on the ticket. One method is to augment the promotion material that comes from manufacturers. You could, as a test, use a limited number of your own tickets for items of greatest

The layout, colours, lettering, and selling word or phrase of your own tickets can give individuality to your display. They can emphasise your name and address. They can indicate a selling point. They can state price. They can anticipate and answer a question frequently asked by customers.

Thus, if red rubber gloves are displayed, and the ticket states "in red only," the ticket could prevent time-absorbing questions about other colours.

Compare your own practice with that of other chemists and of some other retail traders, such as the ironmonger, outfitter, and jeweller. Lively tickets would require consideration of colour of card for the ticket and for the printing and writing on it. Colours would need to harmonise with other colours prominent in the shop, such as the paintwork on the shopfront. The "blanks" would include "Galen the Chemist, 5 High Street, Seamarsh." Then would come the product name, then the selling word or phrase, and finally the price, the last three hand-written on the ticket. If none of the employees could do this neatly and effectively, a local art student might be found who would do it to augment his income. Testing the effectiveness of the tickets would not be difficult. Simply keep count of the number of times items so ticketed are asked for at the STANLEY TOWNSEND

RECENT RESEARCH

A LEAD TO ATTACK ON RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS THE cause of the severe destruction of the articular cartilage in rheumatoid arthritis may have been discovered by workers in the division of cellular biology of the Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology, Hammersmith, London. Reporting to the annual meeting of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council on May 23, they state that recent technological developments in the Institute have made it possible to demonstrate that a release of proteolytic enzymes occurs in this condition and, more particularly, that the enzymes are released from lysosomes inside the cells of the synovial lining, adjacent to the cartilage. It has been established that there is a "leak" in the cells of the synovial lining which allows the enzymes to come into direct contact with the cartilage. It is thought that the enzymes are the agency which eats away the cartilage. Release of the enzymes has been related to a metabolic change in the cells of the synovium and the research team is now seeking to find a substance that repairs the leak in the cell wall and prevents the enzymes from attacking the cartilage.

A NEW FILMSTRIP

Right First Time

Calmic, Ltd., Crewe Hall, Crewe, Ches. THIS filmstrip has been produced for showing to medical audiences, in particular general practitioners, to introduce them to the company's new broad-spectrum drug, Mag-milor, for the treatment of vulvo-vaginitis. A taped commentary accompanies the strip.





FORTY YEARS ON: Mr. A. V. R. Dunne, Buenos Aires, Argentina, has had, as he says, a considerable experience in the "pill peddling business." The left-hand picture shows him in the British West Indies, as they were, in 1927. For many years he was Argentine agent for Holloway's pills and ointment, los remedios de Holloway, as they are referred to on the reverse side of the leaflet illustrated. The products were discontinued in that country when the business was taken over hy the J. C. Eno organisation some years ago.



For Retailer, Wholesaler and Manufacturer
ESTABLISHED 1859

Published weekly at 28 Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2 TELEPHONE: 01-353 6565

Active Residue of Sainsbury

THE statement by the Minister of Health in the House of Commons on June 24 (see p. 580) when read with the provisions of the Medicines Bill, provides now an indication of Government policy on all the major recommendations of the Sainsbury Committee as they affect the relationship of the pharmaceutical industry to the National Health Service. Undoubtedly there will be relief that, on most points, the Government has found in favour of the arguments the industry had itself put forward. Satisfaction will be strongest for the fact that the Minister does not accept that brand names should be abolished on new medicines. Despite dissatisfaction among colleagues on his own side of the House, Mr. Robinson has recognised the damage that might be caused to the industry's export record, and therefore to the country's economic prosperity, by abolishing brand names for medicinal products. Hardly less pleasing to the industry will be the decision not to proceed, for the time being at least, with "standard cost returns." Rejection of that pricing method — a major "Sainsbury" recommendation — is on the ground that the necessary investigations would have involved the employment of "a new army" of civil servants. The Minister did not mention, as he might have done, the comparable army which (as pointed out by THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST when the Sainsbury report was published) the industry would have had to organise to prepare the returns, thus adding to its costs and perhaps rendering nugatory any price advantage that might have been gained.

The Minister's proposal to seek "a very substantial reduction in the amount of promotional expenditure" is in a somewhat different category. While it may be viewed with alarm in some quarters, many in the industry will be bound to feel that the activities of a minority of companies have caused much undeserved criticism to be levelled at the industry in general. Were promotion voluntarily restricted to what is necessary to inform and to keep a product name before the doctor and pharmacist, then the industry's image might be much improved, and that may well prove to be the outcome. The Minister has given an assurance that he does not intend to "interfere" with marketing policies, and the industry would be acting wisely in its own interest to make sure that he is put under no pressure whatsoever from public or political opinion to do so at a later date. A start has been made with the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry asking members to "reconsider" their expenditure.

Gospel or Heresy? Two Cut-price Points

THOUGH not many chemists are likely to be affected by the Restrictive Practices Court's, June 24, finding on footwear, all should note the Court's observations on two aspects of the ending of r.p.m. In rejecting the manufacturer's argument that price cutting would be significant following abolition, the Court's chairman declared that resulting price cuts would be sporadic and short-lived," since retailers' margins on nationally branded footwear were low. In our view that is almost tantamount to an admission that the footwear trade had substantiated their case for retention of r.p.m. It certainly runs counter to the principles and beliefs of the principal protagonists of abolishing r.p.m. though it stops short of our own contention that, with no clearly recognised standard price for a product, some sellers will be charging above the odds if they think they have the customer at a disadvantage.

It should also be noted that the Court, at the same time, expressed the view that manufacturers who did not supply prospective price cutters, such as supermarkets, on the grounds that they were not suitable establishments for the sale of their products because they did not provide a proper fitting service were not acting in breach of the Resale Prices Act, 1964. There is surely ammunition in that pronouncement that could be effectively used by those putting the case for permitting r.p.m. on medicines.

Banks and Their Charges

THE report on the banks, which was prepared recently by the Prices and Incomes Board, gave little hope that bank charges will be reduced. In fact it came to the conclusion that bank charges are not too high, and did not see that banks should be asked to subsidise them.

One of the great difficulties about bank charges is that, apart from specific interest charges in the case of a loan or an overdraft, quite often there seems little reason why a charge is made—and seldom is a bank sufficiently helpful to provide a statement to support any charge. The professed aim of the banks is that their charges shall be related to the work involved—not only so far as the paying in and out of money is concerned, but also for the various extra services. From that initial cost a bank may deduct a sum based on the notional interest that would be earned by the minimum balance in the account. As might be expected, that notional rate is likely to be appreciably lower than, say, the current rate paid on deposit accounts.

There are four main methods of calculating charges, with a number of individual variations. In some cases a bank agrees on a fixed charge with its customers, and that is deducted regularly twice a year. On the face of it the arrangement seems a good one, but in practice it is fair to both sides only when the activity of the account, the minimum balance maintained, and the auxiliary services used are constant.

A rather more common method of computing bank charges is to base them on the number of ledger pages which the bank completes for the account during the period. In that case a fairly high charge may be made since, in the case of payments by credit transfer, one cheque may cover the payments to a number of diff-

erent accounts, and that charge also has to cover the bank's auxiliary services.

A system that is generally more popular in the north of the country than the south is for bank charges to be calculated on the turnover passing through the account. This suits the banks as, automatically, their charges increase with inflation. But it can prove expensive for a trader.

The fourth main method of charging is for there to be a standard charge per item in the account. That method is, of course, similar to the practice of charging a fixed sum per ledger page completed.

We all think that our bank charges are too high but, leaving aside interest on loans and overdrafts, which is charged at the same rates by all banks, it should be well worth taking up the subject with the manager where they seem excessive.

By consultation it may be possible to alter your own system (for example by paying in money less frequently or making greater use of credit transfers) so that the bank's costs incurred on your behalf are reduced—and it can then reduce its charges. As a last resort, remember that few banks want to lose a customer (and rivals are always on the lookout for new accounts). It could be that another bank could do the same job more cheaply. A bank manager may well reduce his charges rather than lose the account.

Dressings from Wales

PEDANTS may say that Monmouthshire is not Wales. The new industrial complex opened by the Minister for Wales on June 12 (see p. 580) may appear to derive more from engineering and the textile industry than from pharmacy. Yet we have no hesitation in congratulating the Principality on gaining a new pharmaceutical industry of enormous potential.

For, though much of the output of the new works will go into household kitchens and bathrooms and into industry, the inspiration for "non-woven textile" products came out of efforts to create new types of surgical dressing. Dressings will figure largely among the products of the new works, finding their way in increasing quantities from Pontllanfraith into the pharmacies of Wales, of England, and of many overseas territories.

For a country that has contributed so many names to the pharmaceutical Register, Wales has been, perhaps, disproportionately lacking in pharmaceutical manufacturing enterprises. The new plant may, from now on, and in one part of the field, be destined to redress that situation in a big way.

Who knows, indeed, but what the non-woven fabric may come to be regarded as the characteristic modern textile of Wales — a sort of "plaid Cymru?

HOSPITAL PHARMACY FORUM CHANGE OR DECAY?

By a HOSPITAL PHARMACIST

HE recent presentation of a Charter gold medal to Mr. C. W. Maplethorpe (C. & D., May 25, p. 471) came at a particularly appropriate moment. Only a few weeks earlier the Society had announced its intention to discontinue the examination for the Pharmaceutical Chemist diploma. All new entrants into the profession must now read for a degree, and Mr. Maplethorpe can take pride in this satisfactory outcome of many years of hard and unremitting labour in the cause of pharmaceutical education.

It does, without doubt, represent an important milestone in the history of the profession, but it would be quite wrong to look upon it as the end of the road. In a world in which educational standards are continually advancing we must move forward simply in order to stand still. Nevertheless there is no reason why we should not pause for a moment to take stock of what has been achieved and, perhaps more important still, lay down our plans for the future.

A Justifiable Claim

We can now justifiably claim that the graduate pharmacist of today is something of an expert on drugs and their chemical, physical and biological properties or, at the very least, that he has the basic knowledge necessary to become an expert. At the same time we have to admit that the public image of the pharmacist has not kept pace with the advances in the standard of his professional education. The man in the street and the legislature still continue to look upon the doctor as the ultimate authority on drugs and medicines. We ourselves may think that the "handmaiden of medicine" image belongs to the past but the public remains almost entirely unconvinced. The pharmacist continues to be seen as a person who carries out orders given by the doctor in the form of a prescription and if we are perfectly honest with ourselves it is difficult to refute that point of view.

There can, for instance, be no disputing the fact that the prescription is an order. The doctor specifies the drug to be administered; the dose and route of administration; the quantity to be dispensed; the pharmaceutical presentation; the instructions to appear on the label; and, should he wish to do so, even the manufacturer of the medicine to be supplied. The pharmacist, graduate though he may be, is thus left with little scope for the exercise of his professional judgment. The law requires that he should comply strictly with the instructions given by the prescriber and not depart from them without first obtaining permission to do so. That requirement even applies to the pharmaceutical presentation of the medicines—a subject on which the pharmacist can reasonably claim to be the authority.

Quite clearly the law relating to dispensing assumes a master-and-servant relationship between doctor and pharmacist and in such circumstances it is not difficult to understand why the Minister of Health should tell members of the Standing Committee at present considering the Medicines Bill that doctors were entitled to "supervise the preparation and dispensing of prescriptions by dispensary staff." His words could have been the result of a slip of the tongue but, since they have not yet been officially challenged, there is always the possibility that he may have been making a statement of fact.

The widely held view that the pharmacist is the doctor's servant rather than his professional colleague is the root cause of most of the frustrations which at present beset the profession. It accounts for such things as the long-standing refusal to grant commissioned rank to pharmacists serving in the medical branches of the armed forces and it explains why the Council recently found it necessary to warn pharmacists not to accept "second class membership" of medical centres they have often helped to establish.

These may be unpalatable facts but unless they are squarely faced there can be no constructive thought about the future pattern of pharmaceutical education. If we are

to train pharmacists to a standard that will enable them to make expert judgments in their own speciality we must at the same time remove the legal barriers that prevent them from making such judgments during the course of their daily work. Until they are removed the necessity to educate pharmacists to degree standard is increasingly likely to be called into question. It was in fact questioned during the discussion on reciprocity at the recently held annual meeting of the Society: One member speaking from the floor declared that, in the general practice of pharmacy, "all these highly academic standards are not required" while another thought that "in retail, pharmacists are not interested in theoretical chemistry, etc." Both were, of course, referring to the standard required for an ordinary degreenot, one would think, one of the topmost rungs of the ladder of higher education.

The stock reply to suggestions that the pharmacist of today is over-educated for the job which he is called upon to do is, of course, that he is now required to handle an ever-increasing range of highly complex and often very potent substances and that he must in consequence be familiar with their properties in order to ensure their safe and effective presentation as medicines. In practice, however, there is an increasing trend towards the use of medicines that reach him ready formulated and, if we can believe the pamphlet "The Pharmacist in Society" issued by the Office of Health Economics, "he has only to satisfy himself by visual inspection that the medicine is in good condition when dispensed." In fact, he can usually do little else because the manufacturer normally discloses only the name of the active ingredient and the amount present. It is rare indeed for the pharmacist to be given sufficient information to enable him to discuss the formulation with the prescriber.

In such circumstances it is not surprising to find that the graduate pharmacist of today is becoming increasingly frustrated by the lack of opportunity to practise the profession for which he was trained. At the same time it would be idle to pretend that the clock can be put back. The ready-formulated medicine has come to stay, and during the next decade we must expect to see more and more products handed over to the patient in the manufacturer's original pack.

Time for Rethinking

Quite obviously the time has come for some fundamental rethinking about the function of the pharmacist in the modern world. In all probability the decision to raise educational standards was based on the assumption that a demand for well qualified graduate pharmacists would automatically follow. Unfortunately that hope has not materialised, and there are already signs that students with educational qualifications that entitle them to read for a degree are tending to reject pharmacy because it does not offer sufficient opportunities for intellectual satisfaction to a graduate interested in making a career in the biological sciences.

The hospital pharmacist is now well aware that there can be little hope for the future so long as he continues to be seen as a supplier of drugs and a dispenser of prescriptions. That, in fact, is the reason behind the present movement to "mechanise" the dispensing operation in order that it may be safely carried out by non-graduate staff with minimal supervision. Graduate pharmacists can thus be released from much of their present routine work and so be free to become members of the therapeutic team.

Unfortunately most existing courses in pharmacy still seem to be designed to turn out competent and reliable technicians rather than high-grade scientists. In consequence they include a great deal of repetitive practical work which, if it is really necessary, could well be carried out "on the job" during the period of practical training. Far too much time would also seem to be spent on the study of pharmacognosy, a subject which has little relevance

to modern medicine. A drastic reduction in the amount of practical work and the elimination of pharmacognosy would allow more time to be devoted to the study of the chemical, physical and biological factors which influence the absorption and utilisation of drugs, a field which up to the present has been almost entirely neglected by schools of pharmacy.

There would be no need to teach pharmacists therapeutics and so encroach on a field which the doctor still regards as his preserve. The object should be to endeavour to make the pharmacist an accepted authority on drugs and their properties and, perhaps more particularly, on their reactions at cellular level. All this, of course, presumes that the growing complexity of therapeutics will ultimately induce the medical profession to accept the need for specialist colleagues who can offer authoritative help and support in the making of therapeutic decisions. It is unlikely that a long-standing tradition, and the law, will ever permit a medically unqualified person to decide, on his own responsibility, what drug is to be administered to a patient, but there would appear to be no good reason why the decision should not be taken jointly by two specialists, each in their own distinct but related fields.

The difficulties are obvious, but they must be overcome if the pharmacist is to have any real future. Somehow or other the doctor must be persuaded to accept him as a professional colleague rather than a servant to whom he gives instructions, and that is not likely to happen while pharmacy is regarded as being synonymous with dispensing. The extension of the academic course along the lines previously indicated would open up vast opportunities for research in a much neglected area and so offer scope for pharmacists to pursue post-graduate research having obvious and immediate relevance to the treatment of disease. That, more than anything else, would encourage doctors to accept them as colleagues. Little can be done, however, without a far-reaching reform of pharmaceutical education. At present it seems to be too much concerned with the training of the man who lays the bricks and not enough with that of the architect who is responsible for the design of the building.

NEW BOOKS

Drugs Affecting the Central Nervous System

A, BURGER (editor). Edward Arnold (Publishers), Ltd., 41 Maddox Street, London, W.I. 9 x 6 in. Pp. xv + 437. 180s,

VOLUME II in a medicinal research series (volume I, published in 1967, dealt with the peripheral nervous system) in which each subject forms a chapter contributed by one or more authors, many of them from the pharmaceutical industry. The volume deals with the mechanism of action and pharmacological "profiles" of many—though not all—types of drugs affecting the central nervous system and also includes information on molecular modifications, antagonists and the drugs' applications in animals and man.

Carbon-14

VERNON F. RAAEN, GUS A. ROPP and HELEN P. RAAEN, *McGraw Hill Publishing Co., Ltd.,* McGraw-Hill House, Shoppenhangers Road, Maidenhead, Berks. 9 x 6½ in. Pp. 388. 140s.

An introductory chapter of this book, which reviews the principles, experimental techniques and applications of carbon-14, deals with the history, production, natural occurrence and nuclear properties of the isotope and its advantages as a tracer. Applications are then dealt with under a number of headings. A section on technique contains chapters on radiation hazards and protection, the synthesis of C¹⁴ labelled compounds and the formation of derivatives and degradation of labelled molecules to determine the relative carbon isotope concentration in different positions within the molecule. Assay of C¹⁴ compounds is next dealt with followed by chapters on chromatography and auto radiography. Finally the use of C¹⁴ in the study of reaction mechanisms is discussed. Appendices deal with nomenclature and list suppliers of C¹⁴ compounds, films and instruments.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL

TEW arrangements by Galway County Council for the supply of drugs to "hardship" cases and medicalcard holders attending private doctors were criticised at the monthly meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland held in Dublin on June 11. A county clinic in Galway, to be staffed by a pharmacist, will in future be supplying drugs and medicines to community pharmacists from county clinic stocks. Due to start in June, the arrangement would at first apply only to persons resident outside Galway city dispensary districts.

The registrar (MR. J. G. COLEMAN) said he had written to the County Council's secretary as follows:

'My attention has been drawn to a circular of May 31 in which you advise pharmacists of new arrangements for the distribution of drugs/medicines under the scheme for medical card holders and 'hardship' cases attending private doctors in County Galway. Initially pharmacists are asked to return surplus quantities of stocks already supplied in original packs by wholesalers. In future you propose to supply replacement stocks presumably as broken bulk from the county clinic in Galway. The proposals outlined are contrary to accepted pharmaceutical practice and could lead to mistakes. There may be confusion about expiry dates on products transferred from one container to another. Manufacturers' warranties are unlikely to extend to preparations not issued to pharmacists in original packs. If a doctor or patient queries a prescription, it will prove difficult, if not impossible, to establish whether or not the complant is well founded and while the county council must bear ultimate liability you may not be able to establish individual responsibility. May I suggest that these and other difficulties could be overcome by supplying pharmacists with proprietary preparations in original con-tainers. Quantities in excess of an amount ordered on prescription could be debited to the account of the pharmacist concerned and from time to time appropriate adjustments could be made by deductions from the pharmacists' remuneration."

Proposed Methods Dangerous

THE PRESIDENT (Mr. M. L. Cashman), said he conconsidered the manner of distribution proposed to be "very dangerous." The county manager should, Mr. Coleman considered, conform with accepted practice. THE PRESIDENT believed that manufacutrers would not welcome broken bulk and that in the long run it would be easier to adopt an accountancy system. To retain the system of supplying original packs would be in the interests of community pharmacists and the public. Nor did he believe third-party liability insurers would tolerate any departure from the practice.

MR. V. G. McElwee said he would be disappointed if Galway pharmacists even contemplated accepting such a scheme. In Donegal they had successfully protested against the establishment of a central depôt. They were keeping the position under review and were determined to fight to the bitter end any such suggestion. Members of Donegal Chemists' Association had notified their Galway colleagues of what they had accomplished and he was disappointed

with the turn of events there.

MR. R. J. Power pointed out, in fairness to the Galway pharmacists, that they had sought the Society's advice regarding complications that would arise through handling

When Mr. T. R. MILLER asked about the progress being made in negotiations over the proposed new health services, THE PRESIDENT suggested that members of the Committee should keep the general body of pharmacists at local level in touch with developments.

THE REGISTRAR reported that the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland had notified the adoption of a resolution adding certain substances to Part 1 of the Poisons Schedule. The resolution would be forwarded by the College to the Department of Health, and under normal procedure the regulations would be placed before the Dail, becoming law twenty-one days later.

The assistant registrar (MR. M. J. CAHILL) reported that he had been shown over the poisons information centre at Jervis Street Hospital by Dr. Woodcock. He had explained that the Society could help in the supply of information on tablet identification matters. Dr. Woodcock had agreed that it would be useful if the Society kept in touch with the centre and had asked for the Council's permission to copy the card-index system which Mr. McArdle, Birmingham, had given to the Society for its exclusive use. Mr. Cahill added that one difficulty was that most queries for identification were received at night. If the Council were to help Dr. Woodcock it would be possible for nurses on night duty to select, in the absence of a doctor and by means of a vibrator, a card bearing the required informa-

MR. D. J. KENNELLY said that, while they would like to help Dr. Woodcock, the cards had been supplied by Mr. McArdle on the understanding that they would be retained by the Society. Dr. Woodcock was providing a most important service which was being availed of all over the country, and he thought the situation might be met if the hospital were to employ a second pharmacist, so that a round-the-clock service could be provided.

THE PRESIDENT said the service was one in which pharmacists could be actively involved. He would like a joint effort between the hospital and the Society. In time the service would become unnecessary, as code numbers would be stamped on individual tablets; in the meantime, co-

operation might achieve something worth while.

A pharmacist having complained about the extent to which hospital out-patients were being supplied with medical prescriptions at subsidised prices, the Council decided to draw the attention of the Hospitals Commission to the situation. THE PRESIDENT said that in some instances out-patients were encouraged to return to voluntary hospitals to secure their medicines and drugs at unrealistically low prices—an indefensible practice since it was providing people, some of them in the upper-income bracket, with drugs at prices subsidised by the rest of the community.

Diabetic Patients

MR. MILLER said that, under the scheme for diabetic patients, some pharmacists were dispensing preparations to card holders without observing the normal procedure for dealing with medical prescriptions. That was endangering the whole concept of a professional service and doing harm to the image of pharmacy. The pharmacists concerned should realise that they were doing a great disservice to brother pharmacists. The pharmacists should see to it said THE PRESIDENT, that they complied with the regulations in repeating prescriptions; otherwise they were likely to be in trouble.

It was decided to ask the Irish Drug Association, in its next circular, to draw the attention of members to the matter.

A letter from the Secretary of the I.D.A. (Mr. B. Smith) enclosed a cutting of a question, asked in the Dail by Dr. O'Connell, about the indiscriminate sale and distribution of veterinary antibiotics. It was decided to inform Dr. O'Connell that a joint submission made in November 1967 by the Council and the Veterinary Association had urged that the sale of those preparations should be restricted to members of the two professions.

MR. KENELLY said that since the Medical Preparations (Control of Sales) Regulations had been introduced "all kinds of hucksters and cross-road sheebeens" had been selling veterinary preparations. At the time the Regulations were about to be implemented the Council had pointed out to the Minister of Agriculture the dangers of such a development and had recommended certain alterations. Despite those representations the Regulations introduced in January were vague about the sale of antibiotics if technically for veterinary use. Even if sales and distribution were confined to veterinary surgeons and pharmacists the preparations should be treated as Part 1 poisons. There was nothing complicated in drafting such legislation and he could not understand why it had not been introduced.

A provincial pharmacist had written stating that arsenical poison was being added to certain animal feeding-stuffs and pointing out that the practice was fraught with danger. Farmers had been instructed by bacon factories that feedstuffs containing arsenic should not be given to pigs within five days of slaughter but they often ignored the directive. The danger was that humans might eat the meat and become affected by the arsenical residues. It was decided to draw the attention of the Minister for Agriculture to the practice.

MR. MILLER congratulated Dr. Boles on the publicity that had been given recently on both television and in the lay Press to a paper he had read at a symposium on drugs (see C. & D., June 22, p. 570) held in the College of Pharmacy earlier in the year.

College of Pharmacy

Miss Mary Broe I.B.Sc.Pharm., U.P.S.J., was reported appointed to the academic staff of the College of Pharmacy. THE PRESIDENT said he had recently had a cordial exchange of views with members of the Students' Association, and the students had expressed satisfaction that many issues raised by them were under active consideration by the Council. He told Dr. Boles, who asked whether the students had been in order in writing to the Minister for Health recently without consulting the Council in advance, that he did not think there was anything very wrong in it. The students had been under the impression the pharmacy was not included in the recommendations of the Commission on Higher Education: it has been under the heading of science.

The Practice of Pharmacy Committee reported that a draft code of ethics, prepared by a subcommittee, was being revised. THE REGISTRAR said the code would be prepared in the form of a draft for reconsideration by the Council.

The following changes of address were noted:- Mrs. Mary A. McGill, L.P.S.I., to 9 Blackheath Gardens, Clontarf, Dublin, 3; Mrs. Gertrude McSorley, M.P.S.I., to Main Street, Lifford, co. Donegal; Mrs. Nora T. O'Shea, L.P.S.I., to 24 Woodbine Road, Blackrock, co. Dublin; Mrs. Bridget E. Sheane, L.P.S.I., to Foxrock Avenue, Foxrock, co. Dublin; Mrs. Sheila Trimble, L.P.S.I., to Balkhill Road, Howth Summit, Dublin; William F. Herlihy, M.P.S.I., to 139 Colney Hatch Lane, London, N.10; Gerard A. Walsh, L.P.S.I., to The Square, Newcastle West, co. Limerick; Mrs. Anne B. Prendeville, Asst. to 9 Rathbeale Estate, Swords, co. Dublin.

The following were nominated for membership:- C. J. Clarkin, L.P.S.I., 16 Farnlea Grove, Model Farm Road, Cork; Mary A. McGill, L.P.S.I., 9 Blackheath Gardens, Clontarf, Dublin, 3; B. F. Miney, L.P.S.I., 7602 Parkline Drive, Richmond, Virginia, U.S.A.; Oona J. Molloy, L.P.S.I., St. Gerard's, Strandhill Road, Sligo; Bridget E. Shcane, L.P.S.I., Foxrock Avenue, Foxrock, co.

The following were elected to membership:- Mary A. O'Callaghan, L.P.S.I., St. Joseph's Street, Limerick; K. Boateng, L.P.S.I., 78 Kensington Gardens Square, London, W.2; J. Cronin, L.P.S.I., Raheny, Dublin 5; J. M. Kerins, L.P.S.I., Macroom, co. Cork; A. Kinsella, L.P.S.I., Edenderry, co. Offaly; T. Lyons, L.P.S.I., Model Farm Road, Cork; P. F. Twohig, L.P.S.I., Goatstown Road, Dublin 14.

Marriage certificates having been submitted, Mrs. Mary A. McGill (née Hamilton), L.P.S.I., and Mrs. Anne B. Prendeville (née Courtney), Asst., were granted change of name in the Registers.

The licence certificates of Geraldine M. M. Arnold, 40 Main Street, Arklow, co. Wicklow; Mary B. Conneely, 73 Annamoe Road, North Circular Road, Dublin, 7 and Brendan MacMahon, Kildysart, co. Clare, were signed and sealed.

The Registrar reported the deaths of Denis J. Dunne, L.P.S.I.,

John Scannell, L.P.S.I. and Ruth Jordan, M.P.S.I.
Members present were Messrs. T. R. Miller; R. J. Power;
W. E. Boles; P. M. Browne; H. P. Corrigan; C. J. Cremen;
T. J. Harty; D. J. Kennelly; F. Loughman; V. G. McElwee;
J. P. O'Donnell; J. W. O'Farrell; G. C. O'Neill; R. J. Semple and M. F. Walsh.

A number of grants were passed for payment at a meeting of the Benevolent Fund Committee.

Any Business Questions?

Is it necessary to disclose the remuneration of a director who is a working director and is employed under P.A.Y.E. or just those directors who receive a director's fee only and are not employed in the day to day work? Your query presumably relates to the requirements of the Companies Acts. It is necessary to disclose all directors' remuneration in the accounts of a company, no matter what the terms of service of the individual director.

From Apothecary to Pharmacist—Series 2 By T. D. WHITTET, B.SC., PH.D., F.P.S., F.R.I.C., D.B.A.

THE CHANNEL ISLANDS

2. GUERNSEY: The earliest reference to pharmacy I have been able to find in Guernsey is an ordinance of October 6, 1777, which forbade étrangers to practise medicine or surgery or to display, supply or administer any drugs without having obtained permission from the Royal Court.

An almanack of 1825 listed: — Medicines, 1; Chirurgeons, 13; Dentiste, 1; APOTHICAIRES ET DROGUISTES, 5. The island was then bilingual and the names given depended upon whether English or French was used. An English language almanack of 1829 listed sixteen surgeons and seven druggists. A French one of 1860 included a M. Haftel as a DROGUISTE but, in an advertisement in the same place, he described himself as CHIMISTE, PHARMACIEN, etc.

In the period following the Ordinance of 1777 there is evidence in the records of Court proceedings of several persons having been given permission to exercise the profession of CHIMISTE ET PHARMACIEN on producing satisfactory evidence of having served an apprenticeship. In 1873, E. M. J. F. Danicourt was admitted as a PHARMACIST on production of a Paris diploma dated 1856. By 1878 the French language almanacks seem to have ended in favour of English versions, which list CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS. In 1882 another important ordinance appeared, which made it essential to possess either a diploma of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain or one of the Faculties of Pharmacy of France, in order to practice the profession of CHIMISTE OU PHARMACIEN. Those Chimistes et Pharmaciens already practising in the island were exempted. Immediately after that legislation some of the earlier members admitted to the local Register (thenceforth kept in accordance with the law) took pride in calling themselves CHEMIST BY EXAMINATION and used that title on their stationery, labels, etc.

The present-day Ordinances follow closely those of the United Kingdom. It is still necessary to be admitted to the local register and to receive the permission of the Royal Court to practise in the island. In addition to the production of a diploma it is necessary to produce evidence of identification and also a recently-dated letter from the registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain as evidence of being currently on the British Register. The current almanack lists six chemists and druggists.

I wish to thank Mr. P. A. Larbelestier and T. A. Moignard for information on the history of pharmacy in Jersey and Mrs. W. A. Bater (secretary and treasurer of the Guernsey Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain) and Mr. J. M. G. Walter, of the Priaulx Library, Guernsey, for information on pharmaceutical affairs in Guernsey.

Correspondence

Letters when received must bear the name and address of the sender, not necessarily for publication. The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the views expressed.

The H is Silent

SIR,—Pleash excushe my showing thish shlight shlip [Paris Mist mis-printed Parish Mist in the Cumulative Price Changes List, June 22] to your goodshelves.

BREATHADVYSER Our apologies for the mishprint. We hope Parisioners will show adequate understanding and forbearance. Editor1.

Confusing

SIR,—The letter from Eli Lilly & Co., Ltd. re Sequens is typical of those I have received from that company. What the writer of the letter (C. & D., June 22, p. 564) is blind to is that there was confusion irrespective of the fact that a public inquiry might arrive in the end at the correct solution

> JAMES McDonnell, Southend-on-Sea

Catering for All Customers

SIR,-I note with interest that the Boots organisation is producing a card in Hindi and Urdu drawing attention to the new prescription charges. But why stop there? Some of us have Chinese, Polish, Spanish, German and Arabic-speaking customers, not forgetting, of course, Welsh and Gaelic for the nationalists. May I suggest also a basic English translation for the benefit of those totally unable to under-stand Ministerial jargon. Then we might be truly said to be getting somewhere.

G. L. BEET, Bolton-le-Sands, Lancs

Eucalyptus and Valerian Seedlings

SIR,—To any pharmacist or student who will encourage the growth of Eucalyptus trees and valerian perennial plants I will send three seedlings to grow eucalyptus trees and three valerian plant seedlings. The eucalyptus can grow into good outdoor trees or indoor trees for decoration and improvement in air purity. There is no charge for these—they are free—but please send 1s. 6d. stamps for postage and packing. Eucalyptus trees are evergreen and health-producing, also the most attractive and beautiful trees in the world. Valerian often flower in December. The excellent therapeutic value of valerian was known 2000 years B.C. R. V. OWEN. R. V. OWEN, 5 Cross Street,

Ellesmere, Salop **Woolly-minded Effrontery**

SIR,—Can anything be worse than the apostasy of the Government in reimposing prescription charges; worse than the woolly-mindedness of the Ministry's backroom boys in concocting such a complicated system of exemptions and refunds; worse than the meekness (to use an euphemism) of our negotiators in accepting it all? If any-

thing, it must surely be the effrontery of those who intend to pay us a penny (later to be reduced to a half penny) work involved. A shilling per form would be more like it, and this payment could be reduced in a few months' time when things will be (we hope) running more smoothly.

RAYMOND HUTCHINSON, London, S.E.7

Tax and Margins

SIR,—With the recent increases in purchase tax, it is important that manufacturers' "recommended" prices should at least cover the increase in tax. Retailers are obliged to invest more capital in that tax — capital that should earn a profit. It is therefore with alarm and anger that I notice that some few manufacturers, whilst maintaining their own profit, are recommending retail prices involving a cut in chemists' profit rates. For example, the tax on Sea Witch has been increased by almost 9s. per doz., but the makers blithely recommend that we cut our profit by 1s. per doz., a reduction in actual percentage from 27.4 per cent. to 23.4 per cent. This simply will not do.

C. R. THEWLIS, Middlesbrough

What should have been said?

SIR,—So Mr. Levy lost his appeal (see C. & D., May 25, p. 464), as was to be expected. But what most emerges is that appeal counsel could speak of "very trifling offences" and have Lord Parker agree with him. Of course they were and always have been. The mere fact of having to buy most poisons in a particular kind of shop is a warning in itself, and the average, reasonably responsible customer can be entrusted with them; but if a person is thought to be taking, say, too many compound codeine tablets (and with good assistants that will be quickly noticed), then the pharmacist can stop and warn of the dangers. We have always made rather too much of our enforcement duties—perhaps from a sort of fcar that, having so few, even those few might be taken from us. Instead we should have said to the legislature: "These are trifling requirements, which make nonsense of the law. They should be revised." Therefore Mr. Levy was right to make his protest, however wrong he may have been in his manner of making it.

J. T. MARRIOTT, Hemel Hempstead

More Work for Less Pay

SIR,-May I claim a record? Seventy EC10 tornis prededdeclaration completed. "Pharmacist" EC10 forms presented and not one

Sir,—We have now had a fortnight's experience of the new prescription charges and, as envisaged by many practical pharmacists, the shortcomings have made themselves manifest. In the busy pharmacy of which I am the manager, the time taken in helping elderly customers to complete their EC10's has been considerable and, in spite of a falling-off in the total number of prescriptions dispensed (with its consequent financial loss to my employer) I and my staff have been kept busier than ever. It is obvious that the medical profession are making no attempt whatsoever to smooth the path for those entitled to exemption, an attitude that has greatly increased the work of the pharmacist. Only about 20 per cent, of the prescriptions presented by elderly people and parents of under fifteen's have been properly completed, while nursing and expectant mothers seem entirely unaware of the existence of Form EC91 until we have taken the trouble to explain the procedure. It would be a great help to our profession if:-

1. The instruction "To be completed before taking the prescription to the chemist," given on the back of form EC10, was printed in BOLD BLOCK LETTERS, preferably in a different colour.

2. A suitably worded card was placed in all doctors' surgeries, Post Offices and Public Libraries worded

"TO ALL THOSE EXEMPT FROM PRESCRIPTION CHAR-GES: Before taking your pres-cription to the chemist please complete the declaration on the back.

No doubt there will be many objections to this simple suggestion. Finally it strikes me as ironic that the retail pharmacist should have to cope with more work for less pay whereas his col-leagues the doctor receives the same pay for less work. The M.B. for me next time!

B. KENT JONES, Leyland, Lancs

The Old Mulberry Bush

SIR,—Here we go round and round the same old mulberry bush! The Minister of Health plays the piper and we (practising pharmacists) dance the tune! We were all told glibly that, so long as the EC10's were filled in correctly and signed on the back (irrespective of whether the signature was a forgery or not), that was all we had to worry about. What we were not told was that we had to engage in sometimes lengthy correspondence and explanations as to who was eligible for exemptions and who was not; which forms came from which Council; and to whom they applied and where they were obtained—and that notwithstanding the fact that the official notices about the commencement, etc., of this infernal scheme have been plastered up in the pharmacy for the past month or so. Add to all this that 95 per cent. of all EC10's for which the patients are claiming exemption are not filled in or filled in incorrectly, or else are

brought in by children unsigned and have to be sent back home. For the incomplete ones we have to supply a pen and instructions as to the completion or else fill them in ourselves and get the patient or representative to sign. After all this comes the (to the Minister) insignificant task of dispensing the items involved. Our friends the doctors are apparently not even bothering to help by telling their patients that the EC10's may need filling in and signing on the back. And to reimburse us for the exasperation (we are, after all, only human, aren't we?), the endless explanations, the time wasted and the extra work involved, we are grudgingly given one penny per item for less than three months, when that princely sum will be reduced to about one half-penny! Heaven knows what will happen when a permanent scheme is arrived at. The exasperations, explanations, etc., we can surmount, but that this unsolicited extension of our professional services is reimbursed in such a paltry fashion is insulting. Are not our patience, skill and professional know-how worthy of a better recompense? I've never been a "union man" but I'm beginning to wish that we did belong compulsorily to a strong union that could speak and, when necessary, act forcibly on our behalf.

HUGH JOHN LEONARD, Poole, Dorset

WARD PHARMACISTS

Guild's council gives guidance to its members

THE Guild of Public Pharmacists has issued a memorandum in which it sets out the council's views on the various "ward pharmacist" experiments that have been embarked upon in recent years (schemes in which pharmacists visit hospital wards to examine prescriptions and to become more closely involved in the control of drugs and the prescribing and administering of medicines).

More Suitable Term Needed

A number of recommendations setting out the functions of the "ward pharmacist," and offering guidance to those who plan new arrangements for prescribing, distributing and administering drugs in hospitals, have been approved. The memorandum states that the expression "ward pharmacist" is accepted for want of a better, but the council hopes that a more suitable term may be adopted in the near future. The recommendations are:—

FUNCTION: The function of the ward pharmacist is to co-operate with medical and nursing staff to seek to ensure that the patient gets the appropriate dose of the intended drug at the proper time by the appropriate route and that an adequate record of medication is kept. An important aspect of that function is the giving of advice to medical and nursing staff on the choice of drug, its dosage, presentation and route of administration.

QUALIFICATIONS: Pharmacists who act as ward pharmacists must be of suitable personality and able to establish an acceptable professional relationship with medical and nursing staffs. They must be well trained in pharmacology and have acquired sufficient knowledge of the actions, uses and side effects of modern drugs and the various presentations of them available, so as to be able to discuss drug therapy with medical and nursing staff.

METHOD OF CARRYING OUT
DUTIES:—

(a) Ward pharmacists should be attached to certain wards, which they visit at times when they can be most useful in connection with the medication process. They should get to know the ward personally, and ward staff should be encouraged to contact the pharmacist attached to their ward when pharmaceutical advice is required.

(b) A ward pharmacist should see the prescription forms of every patient in the

wards to which he is attached. He will annotate prescriptions as necessary, altering proprictary names to approved names, etc. In consultation with medical staff concerned, he may change a drug prescribed to one that is therapeutically equivalent, and may change a dose or a route of administration to one which is more appropriate.

(c) He should be responsible for ensuring that adequate stocks of all medical preparations needed for the treatment of patients on the ward are available in sufficient quantities, properly labelled and stored under appropriate conditions. He should take charge of all drugs brought to the hospital by patients and of any

medicaments intended for use in clinical trials.

(d) He may interview patients soon after admission to find out what drug therapy they have received prior to admission, and to elucidate any known drug sensitivities, with a view to avoiding the adminstration of drugs, or the giving of foods, that are contraindicated.

(e) He may assist in the notification of side effects of drugs. Reports of adverse reactions to drugs, whether observed by medical or by nursing staff, should be communicated to the ward pharmacist, and he should discuss with the medical staff the need for them to be reported to the Safety of Drugs Committee.

(f) He should participate in clinical trials, helping to organise the method to be used, assigning patients to active drug or placebo, and keeping adequate records, so that the findings of the trial may be evaluated.

(g) He may participate with medical staff in experiments to investigate the metabolism, absorption and excretion of

GUIDANCE ON INITIATING SCHEMES: Pharmacists who regularly visit wards to take part in the medication process should do so under a scheme that is fully approved by medical and nursing staffs and the employing authority. Their status on the wards as members of the therapeutic team should be fully accepted. They should be able to see, as of right, all documents related to drug therapy on the wards, and should be in no way subservient to medical and nursing staff, though acknowledging that the doctor is finally responsible for medical treatment.

A "PURELY PROFESSIONAL" PHARMACY

Runcorn places restrictions on a tenancy

THE tenant of a pharmacy for which provision has been made near a health centre in Runcorn New Town, Ches, is being restricted by the terms of his lease to dispensing and to the sale of medicines and health and hygiene adjuncts.

"Leapfrogging" Eliminated

The pharmacy will be the only one in an area whose population pected to build up to over 8,000. At first it will be in temporary accommodation. Private dispensing will be allowed, and the possibility of "leap-frogging" by another pharmacist is frogging" by another pharmacist is eliminated because the Corporation holds all land within a reasonable distance of the pharmacy, while restrictions on selling medicinal goods have been imposed on other retailers in the area. The arrangement is expected to allow the pharmacist to concentrate on providing professional services and to work in close association with the doctors in the health centre. To all the discussions on its settingup the Pharmaceutical Society has been a party.

Runcorn New Town is expected to have an eventual population of about 100.000, with perhaps three more "satellite" health centres on the lines of the one described. In the old urban area a health centre will be served by "traditional" pharmacies. In the new town centre, likewise, where there will be a health centre and a diagnostic centre for use by all branches of the

health service, no limitation is being imposed on pharmacies. For each of the other "restricted" peripheral pharmacies a catchment population of 8,000 is presupposed, but the tenant pharmacist will have to bear in mind that, because of the town's "rapid transport" system some local residents are likely to obtain their pharmaceutical supplies in the town centre.

Applications for the tenancy are currently being invited by Runcorn Development Corporation. Chapel Street, Runcorn. The tenant will be selected by a committee presided over by Mr. E. A. Hebron (chairman, Cheshire Pharmaceutical Committee), and comprising Messrs. G. S. Knowles (secretary, Cheshire Pharmaceutical Committee) and F. R. Sherliker (Runcorn Development Corporation), Professor Andrew Wilson (professor of pharmacology and general therapeutics, Liverpool University) and Mr. C. G. Drummond (a pharmacist in general practice in Bo'ness, West Lothian). The Committee will take into consideration the professional qualifications, experience and financial standing of the applicant.

Though the prospectus has not been finally agreed, a fourteen-year lease-hold is envisaged. Rental will be based on turnover above a specified minimum. Bodies corporate are understood to be eligible to apply for the tenancy of the pharmacy while the fixtures and fittings are to be the tenant's res-

ponsibility.

Medicines Bill

AN AMENDMENT EXEMPTING EXPORTS

CONSIDERATION of the Report stage of the Medicines Bill was begun in the House of Commons on June 20. MR. KENNETH ROBINSON (Minister of Health) moved a new clause providing for the postponement of the restrictions on exports of medicinal products and at the same time ensuring that the requirements could be "reactivated" by the licensing authority to give effect to any international agreement to which the United King-

dom was a party.

It had been argued in committee that British exporters should not have to go through licensing procedures which their competitors in other countries did not have to face. Discussions about maintaining the high quality of exported pharmaceutical products were proceeding in the Assembly of the World Health Organisation with the object of ensuring that the quality of exported pharmaceuticals was at least as high as those marketed in the country of origin. Industry had accepted that, if the country were party to an agreement, then the licensing authority must ensure the obligations were fulfilled. The new clause also postponed operation of the Bill in relation to the export of material for clinical and field trials. It would, however, become necessary to arrange for an amendment to be moved later excluding a limited range of products of which the manufacture for sale was at present subject to licensing under Part I of the Therapeutic Substances Act, 1956, and Part II of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1950. The Minister pointed out that some of those vaccines required stringent controls, and the country receiving them might be unable to apply to the finished product all the tests necessary. Those products must therefore remain subject to licensing when the Bill came into operation. The amendment would cover that point, which had been brought to the notice of representatives of the industry, by whom he understood that the need for an exception was fully recognised. The new clause was agreed too.

Herbal Remedies

MR. JULIAN SNOW (Parliamentary Secretary) then moved a series of amendments in connection with the herbal remedies exemptions in Clause 11. He said that one of the criticisms levelled against the exemptions in respect of herbal remedies at present in the Bill was that wider exemptions for extemporaneous remedies were available only when the individual attended personally at the herbalist's premises and the medicine was delivered there. Another criticism was that the exemptions did not allow the herbalist to supply a product that had been manufactured elsewhere unless it was bought in prepacked form and was either a product on the general sales list or one within a limited category described in Clause 48. The new clause would allow the herbalist to dispense either

a remedy he had manufactured himself, or one he had obtained in bulk from another manufacturer, or one he had obtained elsewere prepacked. The new subsection provided relief from licensing the processing, packaging and sale or supply of herbal products such as fennel, raspberry leaves or ground ginger root where they were to be sold or supplied simply as such, purely by botanical name, with a reference to the process used in manufacture but without any written therapeutic recommendation. Closely coupled with the new clauses was an intention to propose a further amendment, "to be put down as soon as possible in another place," the effect of which would be to put manufactured herbal ingredients not already covered by Clause 116 1(b), used in the preparation of herbal remedies, in the same position as ingredients for use in pharmacies, hospitals or by practitioners. The intention was to enable licensing control to be applied to bulk extracts, solid or fluid, tinctures or other substances, some of them potent, used by the herbalist in the extemporaneous preparation of herbal remedies for the treatment of individuals who had consulted him.

"Desperately Dangerous"

Dr. M. P. WINSTANLEY welcomed the new clause. He believed it was right to introduce the exemptions and relaxations but thought it should be made clear at the same time that treatment should be sought from a professional source. Self-diagnosis could be "desperately dangerous." MR. DUDLEY SMITH, declaring an "interest" in that he held office in a leading pharmaceutical company, congratulated the lobbyists on behalf of herbal remedies. Since he had been back in Parliament he had had more letters on that subject than any other except the speech of Mr. Enoch Powell in an entirely different connotation. MR. PAUL DEAN also welcomed the clause. He said that originally herbalists could not take preparations to the persons in their homes, and it was highly desirable that they should be able to. He asked the Minister to confirm the position of the health food stores. Mr. Snow said the health food stores were in exactly the same position as any other retail outlets dealing in herbal medicines. Mr. DEAN also asked whether the main herbalist bodies were satisfied with the new clause. Mr. Snow, replying, said the intention was that licensing control should apply to bulk extracts, solid or fluid, and tinctures or other substances used by the herbalist in preparing herbal remedies extemporaneously. It had been pointed out that a number of ointment bases, not of herbal origin, were traditionally used by herbalists. The Minister was prepared to consider whether anything needed to be done to avoid excluding such substances. "We are anxious to help this traditional profession so far as we can.

THE MINISTER accepted an amend-

ment suggested by Mr. MICHAEL ENGLISH, who pointed out that the practice of pharmacy was not necessarily the same as the retailing of products, and who wanted to be sure that, in selecting members of the Medicines Commission, the Minister would ensure that the interests of retailing, as disthat the merely interests of retaining, as distinct from "merely manufacturing or merely the practice of pharmacy," were represented. A large section of the Bill related to the advertising. labelling and marketing of products generally, and it would be inappropriate if the Commission had no representative of the marketing, advertising or other relevant interests. Mr. ROBIN-SON referred to earlier assurances about consultation and to the members of the Commission, making it clear that there would be consultation with the National Pharmaceutical Union, The Company Chemists' Association and The Coperative Union, "the three organisations representing all retail pharmacists," and the Pharmaceutical Society. He accepted the amendment provided that, so far as Clause 2 (3) was concerned, "the pharmaceutical industry" would be considered as "only the manufacturing or wholesale aspects.

Veterinary Groups and Manufacture

MR. SCOTT HOPKINS, moving an amendment to the clause, pointed out that, as it stood, veterinary group practices could manufacture drugs for a large number of animals "and if their neighbours wanted to try it on their cattle as well they could be asked to manufacture it for them," so a drug turned down by the Commission could be manufactured by veterinary practitioners, with the help of pharmacists, for a large number of animals throughout the country. Mr. John Mackie pointed out the amendment would restrict the preparation of medicinal products by a veterinarian for a colleague to the situation in which the herd to be treated did not exceed 100 animals. That, he declared, was impracticable. How would the veterinarian know the size of the herd, and why stop a veterinarian from preparing a product for his colleagues when any one of them could get the product prepared by a pharmacist? Veterinarians "were contained by the fact that, in order to be exempt from the licensing arrangements, a medicinal product must be specially prepared for administering to a particular animal or herd." If a group of veterinary suigeons decided to set up a manufacturing unit and market products, they would have to comply with the licensing procedure. On a vote the amendment was defeated.

MR. MACKIE introduced amendments to Clause 10. The Government had decided it would not be appropriate for a pharmacist to undertake the preparation of vaccines, plasma or sera at the request of a stockowner or herdsman, as would be the case as subsection (2) stood. "On the other hand," he said, "we think we must

allow a pharmacist acting under subsection (1) to prepare vaccines, plasma or sera in accordance with a prescription by a veterinary surgeon or veterinary practitioner. This, of course, excludes the preparation of poultry vaccines, which are all subject to the licensing arrangements." The procedure was in line with the position in Clause 9, under which one veterinarian could call upon another to supply him with those substances. There were no added complications in enabling a veterinarian to call upon a pharmacist. To fail to give the exemption would mean preventing a pharmacist from carrying out operations which his training equipped him to do. The amendments were agreed without a division. When discussing Clause 19, which dealt with "factors relevant to determination of application of product licence," ROBINSON moved an amendment designed to ensure that comparative efficacy should not, by itself, determine licence grants and decisions, but which would allow the licensing authority to consider the comparative safety preparations.

The amendment was accepted.

Second Day

Consideration of the Bill was continued on June 24 after the Minister of Health had made a statement on Sainsbury Committee report (see p. 580). On Clause 45, sale or supply of medicinal products on general list. MR. MAURICE MACMILLAN moved an amendment to omit the provision that the business of the sale or supply of medicines must be carried on in accordance with such conditions, if any, as might be prescribed. He said an idea had grown up in some quarters that the sale of medicines should be completely restricted to pharmacists. So far as he knew it was not the intention of the Bill to make that restriction. It had also been put forward all non-pharmaceutical outlets in which general sale lists products were offered for sale should be registered. He suggested household remedies should be allowed to be sold on terms that were generally possible and "within the easy competence of the village shop"—because that is the real importance of a general sale list . . . MR. ROBINSON said that although he had rejected as unjustified for the present, any idea of the registration of premises selling general sale list goods, it could not be ruled out entirely as a future possibility. "A lot will depend upon our experience and how extensive the general sale list turns out to be."

Special conditions might be desirable for the sale of veterinary medicinal products at stalls and vans. Although there was no intention to make immediate use of the power, it was an integral part of the general scheme to protect the public.

MRS. JILL KNIGHT said the question of consumers' interests and convenience were involved, chemists' shops were not open as late as were many "useful corner shops which serve the public very well." MR. JAMES SCOTT-HOPKINS asked the Minister to look at the way in which the Bill was

drafted and to consider whether it would be possible to insert the broad controls needed for the sale of veterinary drugs from "the backs of cars, lorries or on market stalls, and so on." They should be allowed to be sold in comparative freedom.

MR. DAVID CROUCH insisted that laxatives, aspirin, indigestion tablets and cough mixture were a help to the Health Service and the busy doctor, since they could be sold at at least 100,000 places, and if they were restricted only to pharmacists, of whom there were only 16,000, people's ability to seek a remedy without bothering the doctor or being a cost to the nation would be greatly limited.

MR. ERIC OGDEN had yet to hear of any responsible person asking for a total ban on the sale of medicines outside pharmacies. He had always claimed that medicines should be treated differently from most other products. Registration of premises would be "a useful way of getting a product off the market as soon as possible." For that reason he supported the retention of the reserve power.

The amendment was rejected.

On Clause 47, exemptions for doctors, dentists, veterinary surgeons and veterinary practitioners, Mr. Julian Snow moved two amendments. said the Bill required certain sales "in circumstances corresponding to retail sale" to be made under the supervision of a registered pharmacist. It had been pointed out that the supply of a medicine not on the general sales list by a hospital to a patient would be unlawful because the hospital was not a pharmacy business and it might also be unlawful if a pharmacist did not actually supervise the supply of a medicine to a patient. The amendments were drafted to meet that point and also the analogous circumstances that might arise in health centres, nursing homes and clinics. It would be necessary in due course to make provisions to cover ambulance attendants, mountain rescue teams "and the like." The amendments were agreed to. Another government amendment introduced by Mr. Robinson ensured prior consultation with the appropriate committee before an order was made listing products that might only be sold on prescription.

Overtaken by Events?

When consideration was being given to clause 58 Mr. English referred to the Dickson v. Pharmaceutical Society case and a statement in the Pharmaceutical Society's journal that the "Dickson case" had been overtaken by events in the shape of the Medicine Bill. He hoped the powers sought by the Minister of Health would not provide the means whereby a professional society desiring to restrain trade could achieve its object. Mr. DUDLEY SMITH supported Mr. English and said the power could put a burden on retailers. MR. RICHARD "on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Society" rejected Mr. English's contention that the primary aim of the Society was to restrict trade in the interests of the profitability of its members. Mr. Snow explained it was only partly true that there were powers

under the clause to regulate the layout of a store selling pharmaceutical goods in one small part. The overriding purpose would be lay-out relevant to the safety, deterioration or contamination of medicinal products. Not withstanding the views expressed in the Society's journal "for which he could not speak," the powers were not intended to have any bearing on the position of pharmacists as had been established by the House of Lords decision in the case mentioned.

Substandard Drugs

MR. JOHN MACKIE (Parliamentary Secretary) moved an amendment to Clause 59, which was approved to make it an offence to possess drugs illegally imported. MR. SCOTT HOPKINS wanted much tighter controls to stop the extensive trade in substandard drugs from Eire and Italy, whilst MR. DUDLEY SMITH referred to "flourishing pirate pharmaceutical companies" importing material from Italy, the Continent and from behind the Iron Curtain, much of which was substandard and caused a tremendous amount of worry to the reputable pharmaceutical industry.

Later MR. RICHARD moved an amendment to make the carrying on of a retail pharmacy otherwise than in accordance with Part IV of the Bill, an offence liable upon summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £100. He said current legislation did not include penal sanctions except when a poison could be purchased in the absence of the pharmacist. No proceedings could be taken either for failure to keep a business under the personal control of a pharmacist or even failure to appoint a superintendent when the holder of that post left the company. The penal omissions of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, had made enforcement extremely difficult. Mr. Snow said the effect of the amendment would be to extend the possibility of prosecution in the case of a body corporate, to cases where there was no evidence that an act otherwise forbidden in the Bill had been committed. It was a complex matter. Mr. Richard was attempting to do something that did not conform with the general pattern either of the Pharmacy Act or the present Bill. Withdrawing the amendment Mr. Richard said he might return to the charge "if not on this Bill, perhaps on some other occasion.

On Clause 85 dealing with advertisements requiring consent of holder of product licence MR. Snow moved an amendment to provide an additional defence to advertisers of medicinal products who might seek to make up an advertisement from material provided by the pharmaceutical firms.

He said that it had been suggested that advertisers should not be responsible for false information supplied in an advertisement which they simply circulated or for mistakes made in advertisements for which false information had been supplied. The Government had accepted that principle. The amendment was agreed to.

An attempt by Mr. Scott Hopkins to exclude from the bill substances specified in the Pesticides Safety Precaution Scheme was objected to by Mr.

MACKIE as being a broad general description, not appropriate for the purposes of the Bill. It had been agreed the Bill "was not the place" to control pesticides. However certain products which could be thought of as pesticides would be covered by the definition of medicinal substances. It might be considered appropriate to bring in other substances within the ambit of the Bill. but before any order was made there would have to be consultation with interested organisations. The amendment was negatived.

Enforcement Powers

Five Government amendments were introduced during discussion of Clause 99. Mr. ROBINSON explained that the broad effect was that in relation to composition, misdescription and contraventions relating to labelling, leaflets, containers, marking and information on automatic machines, neither the Pharmaceutical Society nor food and drugs authorities could be given enforcement functions in relation to the manufacturing and wholesale levels, but only at retail level. Also, in relation to advertisements and representations, the Pharmaceutical Society could be given enforcement powers only where they were issued, displayed or made at premises or places where products were sold by retail or were displayed on or near automatic machines.

Mrs. Joyce Butler moved an amendment to limit the scope of inspectors of the Pharmaceutical Society for the enforcement of the provisions of the Bill to registered pharmacies. She suggested that whilst everybody agreed it was right for the Society to have the powers in respect to registered pharmacists there was considerable concern about their extended powers under the Bill. She continued: "The Pharmaceutical Society, quite rightly from its point of view, is on record as wishing to confine the sale of medicines to registered pharmacics. This has caused considerable alarm among the proprietors of shops who will be selling medicines on the general sale list. They feel, rightly or wrongly, that there may be bias on the part of Pharmaceutical Society inspectors. Quite apart from this, it was pointed out in Committee that there are only 15 inspectors of the Pharmaceutical Society, and they will find it extremely difficult to carry out their duties. I am concerned about the danger that they may not be seen to be objective.

Apart from sales in stores and in shops generally, some of the products sold by health food stores and herbalists will also be on the general sale list, and they feel particular concern about inspectors of the Pharmaceutical Society vetting their products.

MR. RICHARD pointed out the regulations dealt with pharmaceutical matters and the Pharmaceutical Society was the best body to deal with those matters if only to ensure that the standards were uniformly enforced throughout the country. The inspectorate of the Society was highly skilled, highly competent and highly trained. Its members knew a good deal about the subject and should be allowed to get on with their job.

Mr. Robinson recalled that during the committee stage he said he would give further consideration to this matter, and he had had some consultations but there had not been enough time to reach a considered view. But he would repeat the assurance he gave during the committee stage that he was prepared to look into the matter and that he was doing.

The amendment was defeated.
The Report stage was concluded and the Bill was given an unopposed third reading.

MATURITY-ONSET DIABETES

Causes and treatment discussed at a London symposium

A SYMPOSIUM on maturity-onset diabetes, organised by the Society for Drug Research, was held in London on May 29. Dr. E. KEEN (Guy's Hospital Medical School) characterised diabetes mellitus as involving a chronic, abnormal elevation of blood sugar, followed by impaired health. Surveys, however, had shown that in the general population blood sugar levels tended to rise with age, to vary at different points in the menstrual cycle and with time of day (higher levels being reached in the afternoon) and to vary between populations. Genetics and obesity seemed to play a part in the aetiology but the rôle of diet was uncertain. The sex difference was now approaching unity. As to complications, diabetic retinopathy was the highest single cause of new blind registrations be-tween age 40 and age 60. Beyond that age blind diabetics, though more numerous, were outnumbered by registrations from cataract.

There was evidence that insulin resistance played a part in the disorder (insulin levels had been found higher than normal in response to a dose of glucose), but obese non-diabetics also produced considerably more insulin. In both, blood sugar levels control seemed set at an abnormally high level.

DR. E. A. NEWSHOLME (Department of Zoolology, Oxford) described automatic "feed-back" control in the utili-sation of glucose involving adenosine phosphates. The controls were primi-tive and a property of the cell but could be further regulated by hormones (e.g. adrenaline and insulin). Were it known exactly how the metabolite controls worked, compounds could perhaps be designed that would mimic their effects, thus opening up a rational approach to chemotherapy. PROFESSOR P. J. RANDLE (University of Bristol) gave further details of carbohydrate and fat metabolism.

Spontaneous syndromes of diabetes and obesity in laboratory animals, said Professor E. A. Renold (University of Geneva) had not been studied fully and could not be positively related to diabetes in man. However, at least seven types of diabetes had been noted, the controlling factors being either genetic or environmental, and it might be necessary to consider ana-

logies in man.

DR. K. W. TAYLOR (King's College Hospital Medical School), describing insulin synthesis and secretion said that insulin comprised two peptide chains linked by two sulphide bridges, but whether the chains were synthesised separately or as one was uncertain. Abnormal insulins could be made and they might have an importance in diabetes. In in vitro experiments, insulin

production was markedly increased by raising the glucose concentration of the medium. Secretion, however, was not always accompanied by a higher rate of synthesis. In maturity-onset diabetes, the β -cells seemed functional and able to respond to raised blood sugar levels, but might not be able to keep the level normal. There could be some metabolic fault in the β -cells.

In whole plasma from obese diabetics, said Professor J. Vallance-Owen (Queen's University, Belfast), he had found no insulin antagonism, but there was such antagonism in insulindependent diabetics who were untreated or uncontrolled by insulin.

The inference was that enough exongenous insulin had to be given to overcome some factor in the patient, and further work had shown the antagonism to reside in the albumin fraction of plasma proteins. Genetic studies showed many people to be "consti-tuted" as diabetics (i.e. they exhibited antagonism, which appeared to be an autosomal dominant character) but did not in fact develop carbohydrate intolerance. Precipitation of intolerance in those people was, he suggested, de-pendent on environmental factors such as stress on the pituitary or adreno-cortical system and the "resiliance" cortical system and the probably inherited—of the pancreas.

For Professor W. J. Butterfield (Guy's Hospital Medical School), who was indisposed, MISS M. J. WHITCHE-LOW described clinical studies on the mode of action of phenformin. Using a forearm tissue technique developed at the hospital they showed that insulin disappeared from the plasma at a slower rate in diabetics than in normal subjects. In both the quantity of glucose used per unit of insulin utilised was the same. Phenoformin lowered glucose levels in the plasma of dia-betics but not those of normal subjects. It did not act by stimulating the secre-tion of insulin by the pancreas. It could be that phenformin acted by enhancing the action of insulin, probably in the liver, and certainly in diabetic subjects, by stimulating insulin activity in the periphery. Action of the drug seemed also to be direct, because it was too rapid to be exerted through a metabolite.

Finally Dr. N. JANGAARD (Chas. Pfizer & Co., Inc.) described biochemical studies on biguanides, showing in animals a correlation between their effects on tissue oxidations and on glucose metabolism. That had led to a demonstration that certain respiratory inhibitors had similar effects on car-bohydrate metabolism. The biguanides also inhibited gluconeogenesis in the liver. He would not, however, exclude other possible effects such as increased uptake of insulin by the tissues.

TRADE REPORT

The prices given are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. Various charges have to be added whereby values are augmented before wholesale dealers receive the goods into stock.

LONDON, JUNE 26: Trading in all sectors has again been quiet during the week, activity being further curtailed as a result of disruption in the railway services. Among CRUDE DRUGS Curação ALOES was easier by 5s. or 10s. per cwt. as to delivery. Peru BALSAM for shipment varied widely between 12s. 9d. and 13s. 9d. per lb. GINGERS were firm as a result of the Nigerian situation, and KOLA NUTS were hard to find on the spot. Canadian new-crop SENEGA came on offer at the record high level of 32s. per lb., c.i.f. and TURMERIC was dearer by 2s. 6d. per cwt. for immediate delivery, although the forward position eased. On July 1, when the first in-stalment of the Kennedy Round tariff reductions is implemented (see C. & D., May 25, p. 461), the import duty on natural MENTHOL will be abolished.

The duty on those Essential Oils which have formerly attracted 10 per cent. duty will also be reduced to 8 per cent. on the same date. LIME OIL duty remains at the exceptional 25 per cent, level unless from Commonwealth sources when it is free of duty. BOIS DE ROSE was slightly easier due to lack of inquiry. LEMONGRASS for shipment was sixpence per kilo up with spot cleared. Anise and Ceylon CITRONELLA were also slightly dearer while Brazilian PEPPERMINT and Madagascar CLOVE LEAF were lower.

Among PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMICALS, the price of ASCORBIC ACID is being reduced by 1s. 6d. per kilo from July
1. It is the second reduction within a

Pharmaceutical Chemicals

ACETIC ACID.—(12-ton lots in bulk per ton), B.P.C. glacial, £85; 98-100 per cent., £78. 80 per cent. grades: technical, £68; pure £74.

ACETYSALICYLIC ACID.—(Per kilo) 1,000 kilos, 9s. $2\frac{1}{4}$ d.; 250-kilos, 10s. $0\frac{1}{4}$ d.

ANEURINE.—HYDROCHLORIDE (per kilo) in 1-kilo lots. 96s. 6d.; 10-99 kilos, 94s. 6d. The MONONITRATE is 100s. and 98s. for similar quantities.

ASCORBIC ACID.—(Per kilo) 1-kilo, 29s. 3d.; 5-kilos, 27s.; 50-kilos, 24s. 6d. Coated is 1s. 6d. more and SODIUM ASCOR-BATE, 5s. 6d. more than the acid.

Atropine.—(Per kilo for 500-gm. lots): alkaloid and methonitrate, 1,568s. 6d.; methylbromide, 1,552s.; sulphate, 1,375s.

BENZOIC ACID. -50-kilo kegs, 6s. 5d. kilo; SODIUM SALT (in kegs), 6s. 6d.

BORIC ACID.—B.P. grade in 1-ton and upwards (per ton): Granular, £84; crystals, £97; powder, £90 10s.; extra-fine powder, £92 10s. per ton in lined hessian bags, carriage paid in Great Britain. Less £1 per ton if supplied in paper bags. Technical from £70 to £80 10s. per ton according to type and packing type and packing.

CALCIEEROL.—1-kilo lots 2s. 7½d. per gm. CALCIUM PANTOTHENATE.—92s. 6d. per kilo for 1 to 9 kilo lots.

 β -Carotene.—Suspension 20 per cent. 334s. 6d. kilo.

CITRIC ACID.—Granular, in bags (per cwt.), in single deliveries, 1-4 cwt. 240s.; 5-19 cwt., 235s.; 1 ton, 226s. Crystals and powder plus 10s. cwt. Anhydrous powder plus 10 per cent. Lower prices for contracts.

CYANOCOBALAMIN.—100-gm 52s. 6d. per gm.

FOLIC ACID.—B.P. and U.S.P., 1-kilo lots, £16 10s. per kilo.

GALLIC ACID.—B.P., 12s. 6d. per lb. for 1-cwt. lots; 5-cwt., 12s. 3d.

HYDROXOCOBALAMIN.—For 100-gm. lots, 105s. per gm.

Hypophosphorous ACID.—B.P.C. 1959, 16s. 9d. per kilo; pure (50 per cent.), 20s. 9d. INOSITOL.—1-kilo, 100s.; 10 kilos, 90s. per kilo.

MENAPHTHONE.—(100-kilo lots). B.P. 112s. per kilo; ACETOMENAPHTHONE, B.P. 122s. 6d.; WATER-SOLUBLE (menadione sodium bisulphite), 78s. per kilo for 100-kilo lots.

NICOTINAMIDE.—(Per kilo). 1-kilo, 32s.; 10-100 kilos, 29s.

NICOTINIC ACID.—1-kilo, 26s. 6d.; 10-100 kilos, 23s. 6d. per kilo.

OLEIC ACID.—B.P. £171-£174 per ton.

D-PANTHENOL.—1 to 9 kilos, 182s. per kilo; 10 kilos, 172s. per kilo.

Pyridoxine.—(Per kilo) 1-kilo, 176s. 6d.; 10-kilos, 171s. 6d.; 25-kilos, 169s.

Pyrogallic acid.—1-cwt. photographic crystals, 32s. 3d. per lb.

SALICYLIC ACID.—250-kilos, 7s. 3d. kilo. SODIUM PANTOTHENATE.—Per kilo, 105s. for 1- to 9-kilo lots.

TANNIC ACID.—B.P. fluffy, 10s. 6d. per lb. (5-cwt. lots) and powder, 10s. 3d.

THIOGLYCOLLIC ACID.—Basic rates per lb. 97-98 per cent., 26-lb. packs, 15s. 6d.; 75 per cent., 11s. 6d. Ammonium Thioglycollate, 19 per cent., ph 9.3 (24-lb. packs), 7s.; monoethanolamine thioglycollate, ph 9.9 40 per cent., 10s. 2d. All carriage paid United Kingdom and subject to purchase tax.

VITAMIN A.—ACETATE and PALMITATE UP to 10,000 m.i.u. 2½d. per m.i.u.; 10-50,000 m.i.u. 21d.

D.—Powder for VITAMIN tableting. 850,000 i.u. per gm. 125s. per kilo; in oil, 1 million i.u. per gm. 67s. 6d. per kilo for 100,000 m.i.u. Crystalline; see under calciferol. D in oil (1 mega per gm.), threepence per mega for less than 100-gm ampoule.

VITAMIN E.—(Kilo) Tocopheryl acetate, 292s. 6d.; 10-kilos, 287s. 6d. 25 per cent. dry powder 10-kilos, 108s.

Crude Drugs

ALOES.—(Per cwt.). Cape primes, 260s., spot; 250s., c.i.f.; Curação, 510s.; 490s., c.i.f.

BALSAMS.—(per lb..). CANADA: 35s., c.i.f., BALSAMS.—(PET 10...). CANADA: 33S., c.i.f., 36s. spot; COPAIBA: B.P.C., 10s. 9d.; c.i.f.; 10s. 6d., spot; PERU: 12s. 9d. to 13s. 9d., c.i.f.; 13s. 3d. spot; TOLU: B.P., 13s.-14s.; genuine as imported, 41s. 6d., c.i.f.

CINNAMON.—Seychelles BARK, 285s. cwt.; 240s., c.i.f. Ceylon Quills (lb., c.i.f.) five 0's, 10s. 9d.; four 0's, 9s. 6d.; firsts, 6s. 8d.

CLOVES.—Zanzibar standard quality, 4s., spot; shipment, 3s. 5½d., c.i.f.; Madagascar, 3s. 3d., c.i.f.

GINGER.—(Per cwt.)—Nigerian split, 135s.; peeled, 165s. Jamaican No. 3, 340s.; Cochin, 310s.—all spot. split,

IPECACUANHA.—(Per 1b.). Matto Grosso, 48s. spot, 47s., c.i.f. nominal; Costa Rican, 64s. and 60s. 6d., c.i.f.; Colombian, 47s. 6d. and 47s., c.i.f.

Kola Nuts.—West African halves 8d. lb. spot nominal; shipment, 7½d., c.i.f.

MENTHOL.—(Per lb.). Chinese, 40s. in bond; 38s. 6d. c.i.f.; (July-August). Brazilian for shipment, 28s. 6d., c.i.f.; spot, 29s. in bond.

PEPPER.—Sarawak white, 2s. 9½d., spot; 2s. 8½d. c.i.f. Brazilian for shipment, 2s. 9½d., duty paid.

SEEDS.—(Per cwt.)—ANISE.—China star 275s., duty paid. CELERY.—Indian, nominal spot, 255s.; shipment, 240s., c.i.f. CORIANDER—Moroccan, 100s., duty paid; new crop for July-August 61s., c.i.f.; Rumanian, whole, 107s. 6d.; Splits, 102s. 6d., both duty paid. CUMIN.—Iranian, 170s., duty paid; 145s., c.i.f. DILL.—Indian, 145s.; 115s., c.i.f. FENNEL.—Chinese, 147s. 6d., duty paid; Indian, 180s.; 160s., c.i.f. FENNGEFEK.—Moroccan, spot, 100s., duty paid; new crop for July-August, 62s. 6d., c.i.f. MUSTARD.—English, 75s. to 105s. as to quality.

Senega.—Canadian. spot, 33s. [b.; new SEEDS.—(Per cwt.)—ANISE.-

SENEGA.—Canadian, spot, 33s. lb.; new crop, 32s., c.i.f. Japanese, 27s. 6d., in bond.

TURMERIC.—Madras spot, 197s. 6d. cwt.; June-July shipment, 182s. 6d., c.i.f.

Waxes.—(Per cwt.) Bees', Dar-es-Salaam, 800s., c.i.f. CANDELLILA, 550s., spot; CARNAUBA, fatty grey, 335s.; 312s. 6d., c.i.f.; prime yellow, 465s., 425s., c.i.f.

Essential and Expressed Oils

Almond.—Spanish, 5s. 3d. lb.

ANISE.—Chinese, 17s. lb.; shipment 16s. c.i.f., July-August.

Bois DE ROSE.—Brazilian, 20s. lb. spot, 19s. 6d., c.i.f.

BUCHU.—English distilled, 1,100s. 1b.

CADE.—Spanish, 2s. 3d. lb., drum lots.

CAJUPUT.—Spot from 11s. 3d. to 12s. lb. CALAMUS.—Spot from 55s, to 60s. per lb. CAMPHOR, WHITE.—Spot, 7s. lb., duty paid.

Cananga.-Java, 24s. per lb.

CARAWAY.—Spot 55s. lb.

CARDAMOM.—Imported, 500s. per lb.; English distilled, 550s.

Cassia.—Spot from 25s. per lb. for 80-85 per cent.

CELERY. - Indian, 135s. per lb.; English 200s.

CINNAMON. — English-distilled, 75s. per oz.; other B.P. oils from 22s. to 130s. per lb. Ceylon leaf, 18s.; Seychelles leaf rectified, 20s.

CITRONELLA.—Ceylon, 6s. 6d. per lb. spot, 6s. 3d. c.i.f.; Formosan, 5s. 10d., in bond; 6s. 6d., c.i.f.; Chinese, 4s. 8d., in bond; 4s. 9d., c.i.f.

CLOVE.—(lb.) Madagascar leaf, July-August shipment, 10s. 6d., c.i.f.; spot, 12s. 6d., English-distilled bud, 35s. (1-cwt. lots).

DILL.—Dutch, 56s. lb., spot (55s., c.i.f.). EUCALYPTUS.—Chinese, 80-85 per cent., 10s. 7½d. per kilo in bond; 10s. 6d., c.i.f.

GINGER.—Imported (per 1b.); Indian, 165s., Chinese, 80s., Jamaican, 175s.

LEMONGRASS.—Shipment, 37s. 6d. kilo,

LIME.—West Indian distilled, 74-76s. per lb. on the spot.

PATCHOULI.—Spot, 27s. to 30s. per lb. duty paid; shipment, 25s. to 26s., c.i.f.

PENNYROYAL.—From 19s. lb., duty paid. PEPPERMINT.—(Per lb.), Arvenis: Chinese, 11s. and 10s. 9d., c.i.f.; Brazilian, 10s. 3d. and 10s. 1½d., c.i.f. American Piperata, 40s. to 47s. 6d.; Italian, 95s.

UNITED STATES REPORT

NEW YORK, JUNE 25: The Brazilian MENTHOL market was quiet during the week. Firmness prevailed in Formosan and Ceylon CITRONELLA OILS. Ceylon selling at about 70 cents to \$1.10 per lb. and Formosan at about 75 cents to \$1.

TRADE MARKS

APPLICATIONS ADVERTISED BEFORE REGISTRATION

"Trade Marks Journal," June 12, No. 4685

LETFIX, B889,956, by S.A. Mecanorma-Craftint, Paris, France. For fixing salts

(photographic) (1)
DETERMATUBE, 915,964, by Worthington
Biochemical Corporation, Freehold, New Jersey, U.S.A. For enzymatic chemical reagents (1)

REVILLON VIVACE, B867,537, by Parfums Revillon, Paris, 8, France. For perfumcs, Cologne, toilet water and toilet eau de soaps (3)

915,359, by Studio Girl-Hollywood, STUDIO, Ltd., Havant, Hants. For perfumes, nonmedicated toilet preparations, dentifrices, depilatory preparations, toilet articles, sachets for use in waving the hair, sham-

soaps and essential oils (3) BINAFOR, 912,625, by CIBA, Ltd., Basle, Switzerland. For non-medicated toilet pre-

Switzerland. For non-medicated toilet pre-parations, cosmetic preparations, perfumes, soaps, essential oils, dentifrices (3) SPINNAKER, 914,293, by Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., Nottingham. For non-medicated toilet preparations, perfumes, soaps, cos-metic preparations, dentifrices, depilatory preparations, toilet articles, preparations for the hair, shampoos and essential oils (3) NEBULUS, 920,286, by Clynol, Ltd., London,

W.1. For soaps, perfumes, non-medicated toilet preparations, essential oils, cosmetics, preparations for the hair, hair lotions and dentifrices (3)

EXCALIBUR, 920,351, by Avon Cosmetics, Ltd., Northampton. For cosmetic prepara-tions and non-medicated toilet preparations

DYNA-POWER, 914,490, by Trojan Dyna-Power Washers, Ltd., London, W.C.2. For soaps, detergents (not for use in industrial or manufacturing processes), waxes, and cleaning, polishing, scouring and abrasive

creating, poisting, scouring that aurasive preparations (3)

CUMULUS, 919,784, by Clynol, Ltd., London, W.1. For perfumes, non-medicated toilet preparations, toilet soaps, essential oils, cosmetics, preparations for the hair, dentifrices (3)

GRAVERGOL, 883,073, by Frank W. Horner, Ltd., Mount Royal, Quebec, Canada. For pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations

and substances (5) FLURETS, 903,235, by Ohio Drug Co. Pty., Ltd., Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. pharmaceutical preparation for prophylactic use in connection with tooth decay (5)

VALCO, 906,474, by Laiterie Cooperative Agricole Valco de Valegnes (Manche), Valognes, Manche, France. For lacto-serum

GYDO, 908,786, by Gydo Canning Co. (Ptv.), Ltd., Ceres, Cape Province, South Africa. For infants' and invalids' foods (5)

GLEN, B909,465, by Sheranel, Ltd., Rodley Yorks. For fly killing and air fresliening preparations, all packed in aerosol con-

MINSTRELS, 915,177, by Mars, Ltd., Slough, Bucks, For medicated confectionery (5) SLOFE, 911,495, by CIBA, Ltd., Basle, Swit-

zerland. For pharmaceutical preparations and substances for human and vetcrinary use, all containing iron or derivatives (5)

ERLUTEX, 912,389, by Lovens Kemiske Fabriks Handels-A.S., Ballcrup, Nr. Copen-PERLUTEX, hagen, Denmark. For medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations for liuman and veterinary use (5)

COOPER'S (device), 913,301, by McDougall & Robertson, Ltd., Berkhamsted, Herts. For veterinary preparations, and pre-parations for killing weeds and destroying vermin (5)

vernin (5)
FASTAC, 915,528, by Shell International Petroleum Co., Ltd., London, S.E.1. For veterinary substances; insecticides, larvicides, fungicides, herbicides and pesticides; preparations for killing weeds and destroying vermin

MINICYCLIN, 913,752, VEBIOT, 914,009, by CIBA, Ltd., Basie, Switzerland. For phar-

maceutical preparations and substances for

human and veterinary use (5)
GABBROMYCIN, 914,016, by Societa Farmaceutici Italia, Milan, Italy. For antibiotic preparations for human and veterinary use (5)

VICTORY-V HONEY-V, 914,113, by Fryer & Co. (Nelson), Ltd., Nelson, Lancs. For medicated confectionery, all containing lioney or being honey flavoured (5) PULMOCYCLIN, 915,794, by Laboratorios

Ferrer, S.L., Barcelona, Spain. For pharma-ceutical and veterinary preparations and substances, all for use in the treatment of the respiratory organs and passages (5)

INTETRIX, 916,107, by Gerard Henri Beaufour and Albert Henri Beaufour, Paris, 15, France, For medicaments (5)

TRIMETTS BREAK, B916,645, by

IRIMETTS BREAK, B916,645, by Phizer, Ltd., Sandwich, Kent. For dietetic, pharmaceutical, infants' and invalids' foods (5) ASULOX, 917,015, by May & Baker, Ltd., Dagenham, Essex. For preparations for killing weeds; insecticides; fungicides, bactericides and acaricides; all being for agricultural, horticultural and sylvicultural use

ISCADOR, 917,912, by British Weleda Co., Ltd., East Grinstead, Sussex. MODVAC, 921,464, by Hoechst Pharmaceuticals, Ltd., Brentford, Middlesex. For pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations and substances

EWVILMA, WVILMA, 918,584, CALVIMAL, 918,582, EWVIMAL, 918,586, by Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd., Greenford, Middlesex. For pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations and substances; disinfectants; infants; invalids' and dietetic foods; preparations for killing weeds and destroying vermin (5)

ELANCOBAN, 919,116, by Eli Lilly & Co., Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A. For veterinary preparations and substances (5)

NOVANON, 919,552, by Organon Laboratories, Ltd., Morden, Surrey. For pharmaceutical preparations for influencing human fertility

(3)
ALUPENT PL, 919,732, by G. H. Boehringer
Sohn, Ingelheim on Rhine, Germany. For
pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations and substances; medical and gical plasters; material prepared for bandaging, disinfectants and antiseptics; and preparations for killing weeds and destroying vermin (5)

MODECATE, 919,986, by E. R. Squibb & Sons, Twickenham, Middlesex. For tranquilisers, muscle relaxants, all being pharmaceutical preparations; and preparations for the relief of tension in the central nervous system (5)

920,048, by Day & Sons (Crewe), LOCONIL. Ltd., Crewe, Ches. For anaesthetic pre-parations for veterinary use (5) MINILYN, 921,325, by Organon Laboratories,

Ltd., Morden, Surrey. For oral contracep-

MODULINK, B913,603, by Educational & Municipal Equipment, Ltd., Oldham, Lancs. For projection screens for use with photo-

graphic and cinematographic projection apparatus and epidiascopes (9)

ASTRAL, 917,983, by Dixons Photographic, Ltd., Edgware, Middlesex. For photographic and cinematographic apparatus and instruments and parts and fittings, none for astronomical use (9)

SIMPLASTIC, B900,614, by J. G. Franklin & Sons, Ltd., London, E.8. For catheters and pessaries, all made wholly or substan-

tially wholly of plastics (10)
MISS JAYNE, B916,649-50, by Laughton & Sons, Ltd., Worstock, Birmingham, 14. For hair brushes, hair combs, comb cases; sets (sold complete) comprising a hair brush, hair comb and mirror; nail brushes, nail polishers, toilet bruslies, tooth brushes; rollers for brushing the head, soap containers, and cosmetic utensils (21) and for pins and needles; hair grips, curl clips, hair curlers and hair rollers, all for attachment to the hair; hair slides, hair supports, hair nets etc. (26)

PATENTS

COMPLETE SPECIFICATIONS ACCEPTED

From the "Official Journal (Patents),"

June 6

Stabilized enzymes. Biorex Laboratories, Ltd. 1.120.298.

Steroids and the manufacture thereof, Upjohn, Ltd. 1,120,478.

Process for the preparation of unsaturated steroids. Rousel-Uclaf. 1,120,495.

Surgical drainage control system. H. W. Andersen Products, Ltd. 1,120,557.

British patent specifications relating

above will be obtainable (price 4s. 6d. each) from the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, from July 17.

From the "Official Journal (Patents)." June 12

Sulphonyl aryl urcas and a process for their manufacture and their use as herbicides. Farbwerke Hoechst, A.G. 1,120,667.

Aqueous chemical toxic material neutralising and surface protecting solutions. Lancy Laboratories, Inc. 1,120,675.

Method for the recovery from liver oil and a separate non-diluted heavy phase of low fat content. Peter Moller, A/S. 1,120,754.

Pharmaceutical compositions containing commaran derivatives. Smith Kline & French Laboratories, Ltd. 1,120,763.

Method of producing anti-adrenal activity and compositions therefor. Smith Kline & French

Laboratories, Ltd. 1,120,807.
10-iso steroids. Eli Lilly & Co. 1,120,814.

Derivatives of tetracycline antibiotics, cherche et Industries Therapeutique Therapcutiques. 1,120,821.

Extraction of crude alkaloids. Chimique, S.A. 1,120,825.
Packaging. W. E. Young. 1,120,826. alkaloids. Omnium

Process for producing N-acctyl glutanine, Kyowa Hakko Kogyo Co., Ltd. 1,120,856.

Quinoline derivatives. Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd. 1,120,870.

Dual medicinal vial. R. W. Ogle. 1,120,897.

Apparatus for labelling bottles or other articles.

Apparatus y for tabeting bottles of other articles. Jagenberg-Werke, A.G. 1,120,903. 9β,10α-steroids, and methods of producing said compounds, Philips Gloeilampen-Fabricken, N.V. 1,120,932. Applicator in combination with a pressurised

aerosol dispensing container. Fisons Pharmaceuticals, Ltd. 1,120,945.

Pharmaceutical compositions containing glycol polymers. Unimed, Inc. 1,120,964.

Dentifrice comprising a halo-s-triazine. University of Illinois Foundation. 1,120,986.

Substituted malonamidates and pharmaceutical & French Laboratories, Ltd. 1,120,990.

Aerosol compositions. Fisons Pharmaceuticals,

Ltd. 1,120,992.

Surgical probes. Philips Electronic & Associated Industries, Ltd. 1,121,019.

Antibiotic compositions and the manufacture thereof. Pierrel, S.p.A. 1,121,064.

Method of producing a storable gelatinisable fruit juice concentrate. Emig & Co. 1,121,270. Cephalosporins. Glaxo Laboratories, 1 121 308

N-Carbamoyl-hydrazinoacetic acid esters, processes for their preparation and pharmaceuticompositions containing them. Konin-Pharmaceutische Fabrieken, 1,121,311.

Liquid sampling-pipetting method and appara-tus Warner-Lambert Pharmaceutical Co. 1,121,412.

Antidiabetically-active sulphonamides. Boehringer & Soehne, G.m.b.H. 1,121,417. British patent specifications relating to the above will be obtainable (price 4s. 6d. each) from the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, from July 24, 1968.

OVERSEAS NEWS

WEST GERMANY

Thalidomide Makers on Trial

Eight members or former employees of Chemie Grünenthal, Stolberg, went on trial in Alsdorf, Western Germany, recently, on charges relating to thalidomide (sold as Contergan in Germany.) A further man has been too ill to stand trial. They are accused of the negligent and deliberate causing of bodily harm, the causing of death through negligence, and of offences under laws governing the sale and provision of drugs and medicines. Chemie Grünenthal manufactured and sold thalidomide between 1957 and 1961. The prosecution will allege that a causal link exists between taking the drug by expectant mothers and deformities in their babies, and will seek to show that the company failed to test the drug properly or to remove it from the market when there was evidence of its harmful effects.

UNITED STATES

National Formulary Revisions

THE first interim revision announcement for the United States National Formularly XII, now effective, re-vises thirty-one monographs, four general test chapters, four reagent specifications, and two general information chapters. Most changes are in assay procedures or purity specifications. Two monographs, bithionol and cochineal are deleted reflecting recent reports concerning possible toxicity or safety hazards. Copies of the announcement (which is not mailed automatically to Formulary purchasers) are available free from the NF Office, 2215 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20037 (a self-addressed envelope should be enclosed). When the Formularly XIII, being published in 1969, becomes effective, all requirements for use of "light-resistant," "well-closed" and other container specifications will apply to products dispensed by pharmacists unless an exemption appears in the monograph. A provisional list of 1,041 drugs to be included in NF XIII has been issued —the highest number in any previous edition was 815 in NF XI. Forty-four per cent, of the drugs will be new, and almost all are being recognised in an official compendium for the first time.

HOLLAND

New Headquarters Opened

THE new headquarters building of the Royal Dutch Pharmaceutical Society (see C. & D., April 27, p. 382) were opened in The Hague on April 22, 1968, in the presence of representatives of a number of other countries, including the president of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (Mr. Allen Aldington) and the executive director of the Pharma-ceutical Society of Canada (Mr. John Turnbull). After an address by Pro-FESSOR J. BUCHI, Zürich, on prob-lems of medical research, Dr. R. J. H. KRUISINGA (parliamentary secretary to the Minister of Health) welcomed an active participation by his Government in that part of the Society's work

which dealt with the analyses of specialties and the preparation of the Dutch pharmacopoeia. Professor J. S. FABER (State University, Groningen), speaking on "The Changing Face of Pharmaceutical Analysis," observed that the cost of drugs in Holland was lower per head of population than in the rest of Western Europe. New laboratories of the Society were opened later. Since the International Pharmaceutical Federation was founded its headquarters have by statute been in Holland and the Royal Dutch Pharmaceutical Society has provided accommodation for the secretariat without charge. That arrangement is being continued in the new building, but on a more lavish scale.

PRINT AND PUBLICITY PRESS ADVERTISING

CORIONOL, LTD., 269 Field End Road, East-coate, Ruislip, Middlesex: Corimist. In Woman's Own, Woman's Home Journal,

Woman and Home, Harper's Bazaar, Flair, Vogue, Vanity Fair, Nova and Honey.
BRISTOL-MYERS CO., LTD., Stonefield Way, South Ruislip, Middlesex: Vitalis aerosol. In Daily Express, Daily Mirror, Sun, Daily Sketch, Reveille, Weekend, Daily Record, and Belfast Telegraph.

Cuxson, Garrard & Co., Ltd., Oldbury, Warley, Wores: Carnation corn caps. In national Press, women's magazines and local evening papers.

EAREX, LTD., Tulketh Street, Southport, Lancs: Earex swimplugs, dust and noise protectors and ear drops. In Sunday Mirror, News of

the World, People, city and provincial newspapers and selected magazines.

LIDA, LTD., P.O. Box LD.Y., Portman Square, London, W.1: Elida hair products.

In Woman and Woman's Own. ELIDA, LTD.,

LANTIGEN (ENGLAND), LTD., Bagshot, Surrey: Lantigen B. In Daily Mirror, People, News of the World, Radio Times, Reader's Digest and women's magazines.

DISPLAY EQUIPMENT

STEINER PRODUCTS, LTD., Harvist Road, London, N.7: Circular dispenser holding the full range of Steiner hair products.

PUBLICATIONS

Catalogues and Lists

ALBRIGHT & WILSON, LTD., Marchon division, Whitehaven, Cumberland: List of Marchon organic products (pp. 15).



COMPACT AND STOCKY: Display and sales unit for Wella spray of Wella Rapid, Ltd., Wella Road, Basingstoke, Hants.



SUMMER SALES AIDS: Backing for the current television campaign mounted for Sparklets syphons by British Oxygen Co., Ltd., Sparklets syphons by British Oxygen Co., Ltd., Hammersmith House, London, W.6, is available in the form of the display unit illustrated. A two-tier model and crowner for four new Hostmaster packs completes the range of sales aids, Retailers displaying at least four syphons (three of which must be new Hostmasters) when a company's representative calls will be awarded a long-playing record (until August 31) Recipients may enter record (until August 31), Recipients may enter a competition in which stereo-radiograms are awarded as prizes.

COMING EVENTS

Items for inclusion under this heading should he sent in time to reach the Editor not later than first post on Wednesday of the week of insertion.

Sunday, June 30

EAST METROPOLITAN BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY and WEST HAM ASSOCIATION OF PHARMACISTS. Annual car outing leaving Bald Hind hotel, Chigwell (not later than 3 p.m.). Tea at Gypsy Head restaurant, Fyfield, at 5.30 p.m.

Monday, July 1

BIO-MEDICAL ENGINEERING EXHIBITION, Royal Horticultural Society's new hall, London, S.W.1. Until July 4.

BRIGHTON AND HOVE BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Langford's hotel, Third Avenue,

Hove, at 8.15 p.m. Annual meeting.
EDINBURGH CHEMISTS' GOLF CLUB, Kilspindie
golf club, Dundee. Morning: Play for
Crookes and July trophies, Afternoon: Play for Yardley prize.

Wednesday, July 3

BOURNEMOUTH BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Cornelia nurses' hostel, Poole, at 1.20 p.m. Mr. Moulton on "Local Authority Welfare Services." At medical centre, Boscombe, at 1.20 p.m. Mr. R. C. Shepherd on "Gall Stones."

FEDERATION OF SOUTH-EASTERN PHARMACISTS.
Conducted tour of Haremere hall, Etchingham, Sussex, at 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, July 4

HUDDERSFIELD BRANCH, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY, Stanhope Arms hotel, Dunford Bridge at 7.30 p.m. Open meeting (men only).

Sunday, July 7

BRIGHTON AND HOVE and REIGHTE AND REDHILL Branches, Pharmaceutical Society, Sports ground, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton, at 2.30 p.m. Annual cricket match.

Courses and Conferences

RETAIL BUYERS' AND MANAGERS' ASSOCIArion, Pembroke College, Oxford, September 24-26. Annual conference. Programme and particulars from the Association's General Secretary, 47 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

Prescribers'

What doctors are reading about developments in drugs and treatments

ASCORBIC acid at high dosage has been found effective in the treatment and prevention of prickly heat. A dermatologist at the British Military Hospital, Singapore, has carried out a double blind trial in thirty children following the chance observation that the condition disappeared in a man taking the vitamin for a cold. Using a dosage level based on the adult rate of 1 gm. daily for 70 kilos body weight he found that after two weeks ten of fifteen treated patients had no lesions remaining and a further four were improved. Eleven patients who had received placebo without improvement in the same period were then given ascorbic acid, resulting in no lesions remaining in six and improvement in the other five. The author puts forward the hypothesis that in prickly heat the sweat glands, hyperactive in a tropical atmosphere, might selectively become short of the vitamin or that the vitamin in large doses might take over the action of, or replenish some essential, but fatigued enzyme system such as the succinic-dehydrogenase (*Lancet*, June 22, p. 1347). system

EFFECTS of three antibiotic regimens in chronic bronchitis have been compared at Ware Park Hospital, Herts. În a blind trial involving 186 patients, penicillin with streptomycin was found superior to lymecycline or ampicillin judged clinically or by laboratory findings. Ampicillin gave slightly better results than lymecycline during treatment but was inferior in maintaining improvement during follow-up. All the drugs were given in high dosage during hospitalisation for severe, acute purulent exacerbations (*B.M.J.*, June 22, p. 735).

No significant relief of angina by verapamil has been found in a doubleblind trial in twenty outpatients carried out by a worker at St. Albans City Hospital and Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Welwyn Garden City. A dose of 80 mgm, three times a day was given with a similar period on, placebo tablets. Four patients preferred the drug to the placebo but three preferred the placebo to verapamil. Only two of the twenty patients showed great improvement during the trial, one each on verapamil and placebo. No side effects were noted from either drug or placebo (B.M.J., June 22, p. 740).

CONTEMPORARY THEMES

Subjects of contributions in current medical and technical publications

UBIQUITOUS MEDICINE DROPPER, Amer. J. Pharm., March, p. 52.

ALOE, Current status of, as a cure-all, Amer, J. Pharm., March, p. 58.

ORAL CONTRACEPTIVE AGENTS. Effect of, on platelets and plasma-phospholipids. Lancet, June 22, p. 1336.

ASCORBIC ACID FOR PRICKLY HEAT, Lancet, June 22, p. 1347.

INDUCED LONG FORMS OF Bacillus subtilis in preservative/surfactant mixtures, Soap, Perf.

Cosmet., June, p. 401.

Antibiotic regimens in severe and acute purulent exacerbations of chronic bronchitis. Brit. med. J., June 22, p. 735.

VERAPAMIL IN ANGINA; a double-blind trial. Brit. med. J., June 22, p. 740.

TRANSFERABLE DRUG RESISTANCE. Hospital study

of. Brit. med. J., June 22, p. 741.
PARBENDAZOLE; effect on Haemonchus contortus, Ostertagia circumcincta, Trichostrongycolubriformis and Nematodirus battus in experimentally-infected lambs. Vet. Rec., June 22, p. 731,

ANTHELMINTICS for Dictyocaulus filaria in sheep. Vet. Rec., June 22, p. 736.

L-ASPARAGINASE. Embryotoxic effect of. Nature, June 22, p. 1164.

CEPHALOTHIN AND KANAMYCIN. Synergistic effect of combinations of, on strains of E. coli. Nature, June 22, p. 1165.

PRESERVATIVES FOR PARENTERAL PREPARATIONS. Indian J. Pharm., April, p. 89.
SULPHACETAMIDE SODIUM SOLUTION. Stabilisation of. Indian J. Pharm., April, p. 94.

NEW COMPANIES

P.C.=Private Company. R.O.=Registered Office.

AVIA PERFUMES, LTD. (P.C.). - Capital £100. To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in cosmetics perfumes, etc. Subscribers: Muriel Goldstein and Brian Goldstein, 70 Finsbury Pavement, London, E.C.2.

B.C.R.D., LTD. (P.C.). - Capital £100. To carry on the business of manufacturing, wholesale and retail chemists, etc. Solicitors: Clifford Turner & Co., 11 Old Jewry, London,

DU PONT COSMETICS, LTD. (P.C.). -Capital £100. Directors: Charles Dupont, and Dr. Kartar Lalvani.

IMMUNEX, LTD, (P.C.). - Capital £100. To carry on the business of wholesalers, retailers, distributors, and dealers in pharmaceutical preparations, etc. Subscribers: K. Kukorian, 59 Parkside, London, S.W.19 and Garo K. Kukorian.

J. R. PATEL (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.). Capital £100. Subscribers: S. Feldman, 13 Clifton Gardens, London, N.15 and H. B.

NUTTERS (CHEMISTS) LTD. (P.C.). — Capital £2,000. Directors: Gordon Nutter and Dorothy Nutter, M.P.S. R.O.: 25 South Street, Keighley.

RAYETTE-FABERGE, INC. Registered in United States. To manufacture and deal in cosmetics, drugs, chemicals, oils, etc. British Address: 457 Edinburgh Avenue, Slough, Bucks. Directors: Mark L. Arend, George Barrie, Philip Brass, Robert Fayfield, and six others (all U.S.A. citizens).

VAN DER GRINTEN, LTD. (P.C.). — Capital £1,000. To carry on the business of manufacturing, wholesale and retail chemists, etc. Directors: Jan Maria Van Susante, and Theodorus Peter Wilhemus Sanders. R.O.: 253 Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.

Re-registrations

Companies formerly registered as "Limited," now "Unlimited."

COLLINS (NORWICH), chemists and druggists, etc. 25 The Walk, Norwich.

SEARL & WOODCOCK (BROCKHAM). chemists, 124 High Street, Dorking.

T. O. DAVIES. Chemists and druggists tc., Medical Hall, Crane Street, Cefn Mawr near Wrexham, Denbighs.

W. B. HULME (CHEMIST), 133 Londor Road, Chesterton, Newcastle, Staffs.

WILLS

MR. S. R. BLACKBURN, M.P.S., Curacao

Whaggs Lane, Whickham, Newcastle upor Tyne, left £15,867 (£15,703 net).

MR. A. CHARLESWORTH, 85 Whitefield Road Stockton Heath, Ches, who qualified as chemist and druggist in 1915, left £30,45 £30,350 net).

MR. E. HASSETT, 9 Lower Rowe Stree Wexford, Irish Republic, who qualified as pharmaceutical chemist in 1920, left estate i England and the Republic of Ireland value at £21,042.

MR. S. B. Jones, M.P.S., 4 High Stree Ferrybridge, Yorks, left £34,110. MR. R. Lindsay, M.P.S., 15 Killiegre Road, Maxwell Park, Glasgow, left estate i

England and Scotland valued at £34,772.

COMMERCIAL TELEVISION

The information given in the table is of number of appearances and total screen time in seconds. Thus 7/105 means that the advertiser's announcement will, during tl week covered, be screened seven times and for a total of 105 seconds.

Period—July 7-13					West		st			Ę		g		Is.
PRODUCT	London	Midland	North	Scotland	Wales &	South	North-ea	Anglia	Ulster	Westwar	Border	Grampia	Eireann	Channel
Andrews liver salts	3/45	3/45	3/45	3/45	3/90	3/45	3/45	3/45	2/30	3/90	3/45	3/45	_	3/45
Askit powders		_	_	5/51	_	_		_	_	_	2/22	2/30	— ,	- 1
Compound W	_	2/14	4/28	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-		
Dentu-creme	3/90	_	_	2/60	2/60	3/90	2/60	4/120	2/60	2/60	2/60	2/60	_	2/60
Eucryl sme':ers' tooth powder	_	1/15	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_		_	- 1
Freezone corn remover	_	1/15	2/30	1/15	2/30	_	1/15	_	1/15	_		2/30	_	-
Horlicks	2/60	3/90	3/90	2/60	3/90	2/60	2/60	3/90	3/90	2/60	3/90	2/60	-	2.460
Immac	4/120	2/60	3/90	2/60	4/120	2/60	2/70	1/30	2/60	1/30	2/14		_	2/60
Milk of Magnesia tablets	2/30	4/28	3/45	2/30	3/45	2/30	2/30	2/30	7/49	2/30	3/45	2/30	_	2/30
Nair	_	1/15	_	1/15	_	1/15	1/15		_	_	_	_		
Polaroid cameras	2/60	_	_	_	_	2/60		_	_	_	_	_	2/60	2/60
sunglasses	1/30	_	_	-		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-
Simply Super	5/150	_	_	_		_	_	_	_		_	_	_	-
Trufood baby milk	_	3/90	3/90		_	3/90	3/90	_			_	_	_	-



